## HB 115 DOCUMENTS IN SUPPORT March 1, 2017

#1 Fairbanks Phyllis Morrow

I am writing in support of a state income tax and increased taxes on the oil companies as critical parts of balancing the state budget. I am a longtime Alaskan, and have enjoyed permanent fund dividends since they started. I have always assumed that getting money from the state was a privilege, not a right. I expect to pay for infrastructure and services and support fair and proportional taxation for those needs.

Phyllis Morrow Fairbanks #2 Barbara McDaniel Wasilla, AK 99623

I support HB115 and want to see it passed. Thanks for your work on this.

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AFN Calls On the Alaska Legislature To Pass a Fair and Comprehensive Fiscal Solution This Year.

At its quarterly board meeting yesterday, the board of directors of the Alaska Federation of Natives, the state's largest statewide Native organization, fortified its position on the state's fiscal crisis. AFN strongly urges the Alaska State Legislature to pass a comprehensive solution to the state fiscal crisis in the 30th Legislative Session. As part of a comprehensive solution AFN supports the creation of an income tax, but adamantly opposes any regressive taxes, such as a sales tax, that would unfairly burden rural Alaska.

"The Walker administration, along with many Alaskan economists, has repeatedly stressed the urgency of a fiscal solution this year," said Julie Kitka, AFN President. "We join the governor in demanding that our legislators get the job done now and not push it down the line where the crisis will cripple our state's economy."

AFN recognizes that a fair solution spreads the burden among all Alaskans while maintaining the state's constitutional obligations and responsibilities to its citizens. No single fix on its own will eliminate the huge budget deficit, and each impacts the economy and groups of people differently. A sustainable budget going forward should include new revenues such as an income tax, smart restructuring of the Permanent Fund Earnings Reserve while ensuring continued dividends, and precise budget cuts that don't disproportionately impact our rural Alaska communities.

## **ABOUT AFN**

The Alaska Federation of Natives was formed in October 1966, when more than 400 Alaska Natives representing 17 Native organizations gathered for a three-day conference to address Alaska Native aboriginal land rights. It is now the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska. Its membership includes 152 federally recognized tribes, 152 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 12 regional non-profit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs. AFN is governed by a 38-member Board, which is elected by its membership at the annual convention held each October. The mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community. Learn more at <a href="www.nativefederation.org">www.nativefederation.org</a>.

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