

AMENDMENT # 13

Offered in: Senate

By: Senator Fred Dyson

To: CSSB 221(FIN) (Version 25-GS2007\O)

Agency: Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Grants to Municipalities

Project: Anchorage – Glenn Chugiak Eagle River Branch Library

Amount: \$500,000

Funding Source: General Fund

Explanation:

Chugiak-Eagle River is the busiest branch library in the municipality of Anchorage with more than 11,000 visits per month. The municipality has finalized a purchase agreement to acquire the Valley River Center in Eagle River. The new branch library will be a focal point of the new “town hall” of municipal services offered in the building. Creating a town hall in the Valley River Center has been a high priority for the community for years as part of their redevelopment plans. The new library will be over 20,000 square feet, double its current size. This will allow the library to create a new teen area and children’s area as well as expand its computer area. The new library will also be outfitted with new furniture and equipment replacing existing furniture that is more than 30 years old.

The municipality has secured \$1,000,000 in private funds, \$1,000,000 in local funds, and a \$1,700,000 inter-fund loan to purchase the building. A local fundraising campaign is underway to raise additional funds for the collection and furniture.