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Alaska State Legislature

Senate

Official Business

Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

January 26, 1987

Gov. Steve Cowper
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Governor Cowper,

Sat. 24th, breakfast with Hensley, Kerttula and Stevens in attendance.

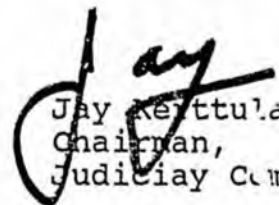
When meeting with Sen. Stevens, I expressed my concern over the state's 3rd party interest in ANWR being eroded with land claims exchanges. We have the example of the "gates of the arctic" trade for the Kaktovic 100,000 acres with sub-surface rights, the CIRI pressure in D.C. and Koniag's efforts.

Ted said native land exchanges would expedite drilling ..pressure was "on Interior"...he did not argue when I said we (the state) should have the same exchange rights with state lands and we had received little federal cooperation on exchange questions. But he stated "we had little of value to exchange with feds" and that there was a serious question about whether we even had 90% of ANWR royalty that, in fact, he doubted that the law intended or would give the state 90% royalty....and if it did the feds would take it anyway!

I believe we must research the law and all federal intent in this matter.

I am very worried that the Senator has made up his mind and it is really against the position I feel elected to represent on both the 90% issue and state land exchanges for key ANWR areas.

Sincerely,


Jay Kerttula
Chairman,
Judiciary Comm.

JK/jck

cc: Members of Senate Judiciary