

HB

35

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Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the legislative computer database. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Mary Pagenkopf

Senate Rules Committee	5/5/97	3:00 p.m.
Senate Rules Committee	5/12/97	3:22 p.m.

REPRESENTATIVE ALAN AUSTERMAN Alaska State Legislature

P.O. Box 2368, Kodiak, Alaska 99615 (907) 486-5930 • Session: State Capitol, Juneau, Alaska 99801 465-2487

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 1, 1997

TO: Senator Loren Leman, Acting Chair
Senate Rules Committee

FROM: Representative Alan Austerman, Chair
House Special Committee on Fisheries 

SUBJ: HOUSE BILL NO. 35

I respectfully request that the Senate Rules Committee schedule HB 35 for a Senate Floor vote at your earliest convenience.

This bill extends the termination date of the Alaska Regional Economic Assistance Program.

The referral packet is attached for your information.

Please contact Cliff Stone of my staff at 6588 as needed.

Thank you for your consideration.

FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: Community & Regional Affairs
 Title: An Act extending the termination date of BRU: Community & Economic Development
the Alaska regional economic assistance ... Component: Community & Economic Development
 Sponsor: Rep. Austerman
 Requestor: State Finance COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 2151

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

REVENUE FUND SOURCE: _____

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current (FY97) impact \$ None

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill continues the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program for three more years (FY98-00). Ineragency receipts in the amount of 666.4 from the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority will fund the program in FY98 and until the ARDOR program sunsets as provided in the bill. This amount is requested in the FY98 Governor's budget request. There are 12 ARDORs covering most regions of the State.

Prepared by: Remond Henderson, Director *Remond Henderson* Phone: 465-4708
 Division: Division of Administrative Services Date: 5/1/97
 Approved by Commissioner: *Mike Irwin* Date: 5/1/97
 Agency: Mike Irwin, Dept. of Community & Regional Affairs



REPRESENTATIVE ALAN AUSTERMAN Alaska State Legislature

P.O. Box 2368, Kodiak, Alaska 99615 (907) 486-5930 • Session: State Capitol, Juneau, Alaska 99801 465-2487

SPONSOR STATEMENT - HB 35

In 1988 the Alaska Regional Development Organizations program was created in statute. Commonly referred to as ARDOR's, they are private, nonprofit corporations formed by local initiative to promote private sector economic development within their designated regions.

The statutory authority for the program, previously AS 44.33.026, is now found in AS 44.47.900. The program was transferred by Executive Order 93, from the Department of Commerce and Economic Development to the Department of Community & Regional Affairs and is under the administrative oversight of the Division of Municipal & Regional Assistance.

The ARDOR program has led to the formation of 11 regional development organizations such as the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference, the Southeast Conference, the Lower Kuskokwim Economic Development Council and the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation. Nearly two hundred representatives of local political, social and economic interests, who serve on ARDOR boards of directors, are working together to lead their regions to greater economic self-sufficiency.

The ARDOR grants, while not particularly large, are not tied to specific projects and so may be used for operating expenses and to leverage dollars from other sources. These are the hardest kind of dollars to find and are, therefore, extremely valuable to the organizations. Millions of additional dollars have been leveraged from federal, private and other funding sources.

ARDOR's are achieving significant success in sustainable development through the establishment of production and marketing cooperatives, improved access to capital, development and marketing of tourism destinations, technical assistance and training for local businesses and entrepreneurs, support to value added production and proactive involvement in locally initiated economic development projects.

Another important benefit afforded ARDOR's by statute is the ability of state agencies to enter into contracts, with them being exempt from a competitive procurement process. This has proven beneficial to ARDOR's, who are able to provide greater local expertise in service delivery or project implementation, and to state agencies who through the ARDOR's, are able to deliver services or projects more efficiently and with less administrative burden.

Sound economic development relies heavily on solid partnerships between the public and private sectors. The ARDOR's were conceived to facilitate this kind of partnering and to bring a regional perspective to the discussion of economic development issues.

The original legislation had a sunset clause that ended the program in 1993, but was extended until the end of fiscal year 1997. I believe it is in the best interest of the State of Alaska to continue the ARDOR program to insure the ongoing economic viability of Alaska's various regions.

Article 9A. Regional Economic Assistance Program.

Section

900. Alaska regional economic assistance program

Effective dates. — Section 8, E.O. No. 93, makes this article effective July 1, 1996.

Sec. 44.47.900. Alaska regional economic assistance program. (a) The department shall

(1) encourage the formation of regional development organizations by providing assistance in forming organizations to interested individuals, including information on how to qualify and apply for regional development grants and federal funding under 42 U.S.C. 3121 — 3246 (Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965), as amended;

(2) assist an interested individual in establishing boundaries for a proposed organization to ensure that the region

(A) is of sufficient geographic size and contains a large enough population to form an economically viable unit with shared interests, resources, traditions, and goals;

(B) contains at least one municipality that serves as a regional center; and

(C) contains the entire area of each municipality included in the region;

(3) gather information about regional economic issues, international trade, and tourism from organizations;

(4) serve as liaison between organizations and other state agencies and encourage other agencies to make resources available to help accomplish goals of the organizations;

(5) assist each organization to

(A) provide services designed to encourage economic development to local communities and businesses;

(B) collect and distribute economic information relevant to the region;

(C) participate in state marketing campaigns and join state trade missions that are relevant to the region; and

(D) develop and implement strategies to attract new industry, expand international trade opportunities, and encourage tourism within the region.

(b) Subject to (c) of this section, the department may make regional development grants to organizations for projects the department determines will be of value in encouraging economic development. During a fiscal year the department may make no more than 15 grants and may only make grants to one organization from a particular region. An organization that is designated an economic development district under 42 U.S.C. 3171 qualifies for grants under this subsection. The department shall by regulation adopt procedures for applying for regional development grants, including application deadlines. The department may by regulation establish additional grant eligibility requirements.

(c) To qualify for a grant, a regional development organization must match the grant by providing an amount of money from nonstate sources. The department shall establish by regulation a formula that determines the amount of the match required under this subsection based upon the capability of each organization to generate money from nonstate sources. The amount of match required may not exceed the amount of grant money and may not be less than 20 percent of the grant. The total amount of grant money provided to an organization during a fiscal year may not exceed \$100,000.

(d) There is established in the department the regional development fund consisting of appropriations to the fund. Money from the fund may be used only for regional development grants

(e) In this section, "regional development organization" or "organization" means a nonprofit organization or nonprofit corporation formed to encourage economic development within a particular region of the state that includes the entire area of each municipality within that region and that has a board of directors that represents the region's economic, political, and social interests. (E.O. No. 93 § 4 (1996))

Repeal of section. — Under § 3, ch. 94, SLA 1988, as amended by § 1, ch. 35, SLA 1992 and § 6, E.O. 93, this section is repealed effective July 1, 1997.

Cross references. — For transitional provisions relating to the 1996 transfer of responsibility for the

Alaska regional economic assistance program from the Department of Commerce and Economic Development to the Department of Community and Regional Affairs, see § 7, E.O. 93, in the Executive Orders pamphlet.

Article 10. General Provisions

Section
980. Regulations
998. Definitions

Sec. 44.47.980. Regulations. The department may adopt regulations in accordance with AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) to carry out the purposes of this chapter. (§ 2 ch 200 SDA 1972)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 44.47.160. Re-numbered in 1980.

Sec. 44.47.998. Definitions. In this chapter

- (1) "commissioner" means the commissioner of community and regional affairs;
- (2) "community" means home rule cities and boroughs, cities and boroughs of any class, and unorganized boroughs and villages that are social units;
- (3) "department" means the Department of Community and Regional Affairs;
- (4) "region" means an area larger than a community, or including all or part of more than one community, but sufficiently integrated that it may be treated as a unit for administration of particular services. (§ 2 ch 200 SLA 1972)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 44.47.170. Re-numbered in 1980

Chapter 50. Notaries Public.

Section
10. Appointment and commission
20. Qualifications
30. Term of office
40. Fees
60. Duties
70. Presence and identification required
80. Seal
90. Protest of bill or note
100. Return of papers to lieutenant governor
110. Application of Administrative Procedure Act to revocation of notary commission

Section
120. Bond
130. Filing oath and bond
140. Disposition of bond
150. Copy of bond as evidence
160. Misconduct or neglect
170. State employee: as notaries
180. Postmasters as notaries
190. Savings clause

Revisor's notes. — In 1971 "lieutenant governor" was substituted for "secretary of state" in this chapter to conform with the 1970 amendment to the state constitution

Cross references. — For provisions governing oaths, acknowledgments and related matters, see AS 09.63.

1/97

ALASKA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS

ANCHORAGE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Designation Date: April 11, 1989
Max Lowe, Chairman
Patricia DeMarco, President
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1400
Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: 258-3700 Fax: 258-6646
AEDC @ alaska.net

ARCTIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Designation Date: March 1, 1991
David Baker, President
Don Schindler, Executive Director
P.O. Box 1353
Barrow, AK 99723
Phone: 852-4146 Fax: 852-2683

COPPER VALLEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Designation Date: November 1, 1990
Carol Neeley, President
Donna Tollman, Executive Director
P.O. Box 9
Glennallen, AK 99588
Phone: 822-5001 Fax: 822-5009

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Designation Date: February 22, 1989
James Elson, Chairman
Stan Steadman, Executive Director
P.O. Box 3029
Kenai, AK 99611
Phone: 283-3335 Fax: 283-3913

LOWER KUSKOKWIM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Designation Date: September 17, 1991
Andrew Guy, Chairman
Carl Berger, Executive Director
P.O. Box 2021
Bethel, AK 99559
Phone: 543-5967 Fax: 543-2255

LOWER YUKON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Designation Date: November 1, 1991
Larry Lujan, President
Susan Anderson, Executive Director
P.O. Box 2021
Anchorage, AK 99524
Phone: 271-2424 Fax: 271-3951

MAT-SU RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT, INC.

Designation Date: November 1, 1993
Ted Smith, President
Douglas Smith, Executive Director
351 West Parks Highway, Suite 100
Wasilla, AK 99654
Phone: 373-1062 Fax: 373-1064

NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Designation Date: June 28, 1989
Charlie Curtis, Chairman
Jeff Hadley, Executive Director
P.O. Box 1110
Kotzebue, AK 99752
Phone: 442-2500 Fax: 442-2027

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Designation Date: November 1, 1991
Jackie Robb, President
~~Paul Roelmann~~, Executive Director
P.O. Box 2353
Valdez, AK 99686
Phone: 835-3775 Fax: 835-5770
James Winchester

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

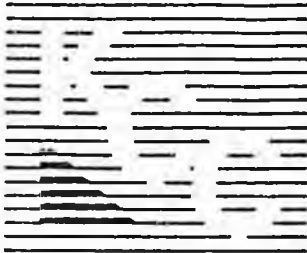
Designation Date: April 14, 1989
J. Allan MacKinnon, President
Berne Miller, Executive Director
124 West Fifth Street
Juneau, AK 99801
Phone: 463-3445 Fax: 463-4425

SOUTHWEST ALASKA MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

Designation Date: April 6, 1989
Alice Ruby, President
Mary Stadum, Executive Director
3300 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 203
Anchorage, AK 99503
Phone: 562-7380 Fax: 562-0438

FY 96 Alaska Regional Development Organization Funding Sources to Date - March 1996

	Anchorage Economic Development Corporation	Arctic Development Council	Copper Valley Economic Development Council	Kenai Peninsula Borough Economic Development District	Lower Kuskokwim Economic Development Council	Lower Yukon Economic Development Council	Mat-Su Resource Conservation and Development, Inc.	Northwest Arctic Borough Economic Development Commission	Prince William Sound Economic Development Council	Southeast Conference	Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference	Funding Source Totals
Federal Funds												
Commerce - EDA				108.9							65.0	173.9
Agriculture - USFS				17.6								17.6
Agriculture - PUS			487.0									487.0
Agriculture - NRCS				12.8	7.0	10.0	136.4			15.1		181.3
Agriculture - RECD					2.5	97.3						99.8
Other		18.0				21.7		15.0				54.7
State Funds												
DCED - ARDOR	55.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	605.0
JCED - Other				12.9							5.5	18.4
DCRA			60.0									60.0
H&HS				37.9								37.9
Local Government	370.0						10.0	155.7				535.7
Membership Fees							.8		35.2	48.5	40.0	124.5
Local Communities			150.0	50.0		2.0	3.0					205.0
Private Sector	300.0	33.0	.4		3.5		2.0				9.0	347.9
Fees for Services	255.0	868.0		470.4	7.2	83.0			1,489.6		4.5	3,177.7
Private Sector Grants				27.5						40.0	2.5	70.0
In-Kind Contributions	100.0		.2		5.0			60.0			9.0	174.2
Interest Income	10.0		.4	23.0	1.1	1.2				2.0	1.2	38.9
Other	2.0			93.5	4.0				5.5	22.5	48.0	175.5
BUDGET TOTALS	1,092.0	974.0	753.0	909.5	85.3	270.2	207.2	285.7	1,585.3	183.1	239.7	6,585.0



**KODIAK
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE**

File
HB 35

A

P.O. Box 1485, Kodiak, Alaska 99615

(907) 486-5557

FAX: (907) 486-7605

February 17, 1997

Honorable Tony Knowles
Governor
State of Alaska
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

RECEIVED

FEB 21 1997

Ans'd.....

Dear Governor Knowles,

Enclosed please find Kodiak Chamber of Commerce resolution 97-02-01 in support of continuation of the Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDOR'S) program. This resolution was passed and approved by the Board of Directors of the Kodiak Chamber of Commerce at its regular Board meeting on January 27, 1997. The Board firmly believes in this cooperative regional economic development model. It has been a successful program in providing an arena where regions can work on issues of common interest.

As a member of the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (SWAMC), we have first hand knowledge of the power of regional collaboration and cooperation on issues facing our region. We have participated with SWAMC on a number of projects including support for the Taiwanese delegation that visited southwest Alaska this past summer.

We support the passage of HB 35 which extends the sunset clause on the ARDOR program. The Board of Directors urges you to add your support to the continuation of the ARDOR program and the positive work that has come from the regional ARDOR'S.

Your careful attention and thoughtful consideration of this request for support is genuinely appreciated.

Yours in economic prosperity,

Tom Merriman
Tom Merriman VEC
Vice President

- cc: Senator Jerry Mackie, Chair, Community and Regional Affairs Committee
- Senator Gary Wilken, Vice Chair, Community and Regional Affairs Committee
- Senator Drue Pearce, Co-Chair, Finance Committee
- Senator Bert Sharp, Co-Chair, Finance Committee
- Representative Alan Austerman
- Representative Ivan Ivan, Chair, Community and Regional Affairs Committee
- Representative Mark Hanley, Co-Chair, Finance Committee
- Representative Gene Therriault, Co-Chair, Finance Committee

02 03 07 15:00 0907 0620103 50 SA WEST CONF 002 001

SOUTHWEST ALASKA
MUNICIPAL
CONFERENCE



3300 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 203
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Phone (907) 562-7380
Fax (907) 562-0438

RESOLUTION 97-06

**A RESOLUTION URGING FULL SUPPORT FOR HOUSE BILL 35,
EXTENDING THE TERMINATION DATE OF THE
ALASKA REGIONAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

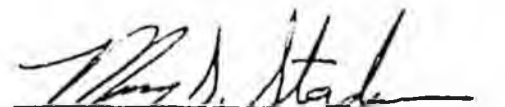
- WHEREAS,** among the most successful strategies for sustainable economic development are those that support the greatest participation at the local and regional levels; and
- WHEREAS,** the Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDORs) were established by state statute for the express purpose of fostering local economic development capacity and implementing locally-conceived economic development strategies; and
- WHEREAS,** since the inception of the ARDOR program, significant achievements have been realized by the ARDORs which lay the foundation for greater local leadership and responsibility for economic development; and
- WHEREAS,** as an ARDOR, the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference has assisted Southwest communities in (1) stabilizing their economies through supporting fisheries policies, such as the CDQ program, (2) fostering economic development through tourism and small business development and training, (3) supporting and helping to expand the Alaska Marine Highway Service and intra-regional transportation in Southwest Alaska, and (4) helping communities address solid waste management and other environmental issues; and
- WHEREAS,** House Bill 35 will extend the termination date of the ARDOR program from July 1, 1997 until July 1, 2000.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference that the Alaska State Legislature is urged to support and pass House Bill 35, extending the termination date of the ARDOR program to July 1, 2000.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE SOUTHWEST ALASKA MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE THIS
1st DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1997.



Alice J. Ruby, President



Mary S. Stadum, Executive Director

SOUTHWEST ALASKA
MUNICIPAL
CONFERENCE



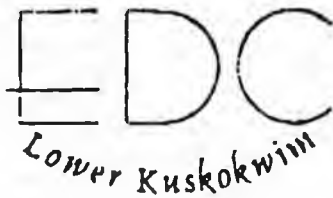
3300 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 203
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Phone (907) 562-7380
Fax (907) 562-0438

RESOLUTION 96-20

A RESOLUTION URGING FULL SUPPORT FOR THE ALASKA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (ARDOR) PROGRAM

- WHEREAS,** it is well-recognized by both the public and private sectors that among Alaska's greatest challenges is the expansion and diversification of its undeveloped economy; and
- WHEREAS,** among the most successful strategies for sustainable economic development are those that support the greatest participation at the local and regional levels; and
- WHEREAS,** the Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDORs) were established by state statute for the express purpose of fostering local economic development capacity and implementing locally-conceived economic development strategies; and
- WHEREAS,** since the inception of the ARDOR program significant achievements have been realized by the ARDORs which lay the foundation for greater local leadership and responsibility for economic development; and
- WHEREAS,** as an ARDOR, the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (SWAMC) provides the structure for a membership organization that speaks with a collective voice on issues important to Southwest Alaska communities; and
- WHEREAS,** SWAMC helps promote economic opportunities to improve the quality of life and influences long-term, responsible development;
- WHEREAS,** SWAMC has assisted Southwest Alaska communities in (1) stabilizing their economies through supporting fisheries policies, such as the CDQ program, (2) fostering economic development through tourism and small business development and training, (3) supporting and helping to expand the Alaska Marine Highway Service and intra-regional transportation in Southwest Alaska, and (4) helping communities address solid waste management and other environmental issues; and
- WHEREAS,** the ARDOR program will sunset July 1, 1997 unless reauthorized by the Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference that the Knowles Administration and the Alaska State Legislature are urged to fully support legislation authorizing the continuation of, and funding for, the ARDOR program for an additional five years.



FEBRUARY 4, 1997

REP. IVAN M. IVAN
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
JUNEAU, ALASKA FAX: 465-4589

DEAR REP. IVAN:

HB 35: ARDOR REAUTHORIZATION
HEARING, WEDS. FEB 5, 1997

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS, WHICH YOU CHAIR, WILL BE HOLDING HEARINGS TOMORROW ON HB 35, WHICH SEEKS TO REAUTHORIZE OUR PROGRAM FOR AN ADDITIONAL THREE YEARS.

I WILL BE IN EEK, MAKING A PRESENTATION ON SMALL BUSINESS AT THE HIGH SCHOOL AND WORKING WITH THE TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR TO FINALIZE A PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING THAT IS DUE NEXT WEEK, SO WILL PROBABLY BE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN YOUR HEARING FROM THERE

AS THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE LOWER KUSKOKWIM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, I'M SURE YOU ARE AWARE OF THE CONTINUING NEED FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE THROUGHOUT OUR REGION. WITHOUT THE ARDORS, THERE WOULD BE LITTLE TO NO LOCAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE NEEDING ASSISTANCE TO START A BUSINESS OR EXPAND AN EXISTING ONE, SECURE NEEDED FINANCING, LEARN OF APPLICABLE REGULATIONS, AND THE MANY OTHER SERVICES NOW PROVIDED BY ARDORS.

YOUR SUPPORT IS REQUESTED, TO EXTEND THE OPERATIONS OF ARDORS FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS, THROUGH FY 2000.

VERY TRULY,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Carl Berger'.

CARL BERGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
LOWER KUSKOKWIM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Lower Kuskokwim Economic Development Council
PO Box 2022
Seibel AK 99559
Phone: 10071 4835967
FAX: 10071 5132255

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

An Alaska Regional Development Organization and USDA Resource Conservation and Development Council

February 3, 1997

Representative Albert Kookesh
State Capital
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Kookesh:

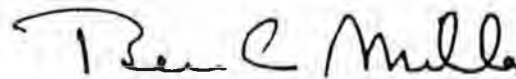
House Bill 35, an Act Extending the Alaska Regional Economic Assistance Program, is scheduled to be heard before the House Community and Regional Affairs Committee this Wednesday. When enacted, the Bill will extend the life of the Alaska Regional Development Program to the end of this century.

Attached you will find a copy of Southeast Conference Resolution 97-6 urging reauthorization of the ARDOR Program. This Resolution was adopted unanimously by Conference members during their Annual Meeting in Juneau last September. For more information about Southeast Conference and its activities as the ARDOR for Southeast Alaska, please see the Conference's *Regional Development Strategy and Area Plan* and *Annual Report for Membership Year 1996* sent you with our last letter.

I regret I will be unable to attend the Committee's hearing. I must be in Ketchikan to join with federal, state, and local representatives who are meeting to consider the kind of partnership to put together to aid southern Southeast Alaska's recovery from the recent and impending downturn in the timber industry. Should you have an urgent need for more information, I can be reached through the Cape Fox Hotel.

Thanks you for your interest.

Sincerely,



Berne C. Miller
Executive Director

Attachment

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

An Alaska Regional Development Organization and USDA Resource Conservation and Development Council

A RESOLUTION URGING REAUTHORIZATION OF THE ALASKA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (ARDOR) PROGRAM

(Resolution 97-6)

- WHEREAS** one of the most serious challenges facing Alaskans today is expansion, diversification, and stabilization of the State's economy, and
- WHEREAS** among the most successful approaches to economic expansion, diversification, and stabilization is one that encourages and facilitates a high level of participation at local and community levels, and
- WHEREAS** the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) Program was established to create and sustain regional development capacity by fostering effective public-private partnerships to implement locally conceived and executed economic and community development projects, and
- WHEREAS** the ARDOR Program will "sunset" in 1997 unless reauthorized by the Legislature, and
- WHEREAS** ARDORs statewide have laid a solid foundation for greater responsibility and leadership in economic and community development at the regional level, and
- WHEREAS** Southeast Conference has assisted the people and communities of Southeast Alaska by 1) supporting and helping improve and expand marine and land transportation infrastructure; 2) helping communities address solid waste management, household hazardous waste disposal, and other environmental needs; and 3) helping communities plan and execute development efforts responsive to local needs and priorities

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

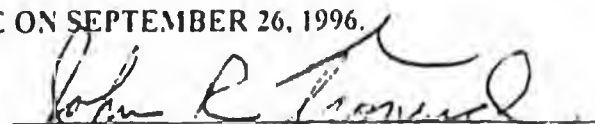
Southeast Conference urges the Administration and Legislature to fully support the ARDOR Program through appropriate administrative policies and appropriation of funds adequate to sustain the ARDORs' mission of building local capacity and developing sustainable economies.

Southeast Conference urges the Administration and Legislature to reauthorize the ARDOR Program during the next legislative session.

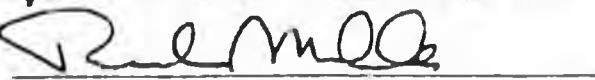
This Resolution be sent to the Governor, the Legislature, the Department of Community and Regional Affairs, the Department Commerce and Economic development, and the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority.

ADOPTED BY SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE ON SEPTEMBER 26, 1996.

Witness


John Tronrud - President Southeast Conference

Attest


Berne C. Miller - Executive Director

ALASKA STATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE CONTINUATION OF THE ALASKA REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Alaska state legislature created the Alaska Regional Economic Development Organization (ARDOR) program in 1988; and

WHEREAS, the legislation created a program that encouraged the formation of regional development organizations such as the Southeast Conference, the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference, and others around the State of Alaska to address the economic problems of those regions; and

WHEREAS, the ARDOR'S are private nonprofit corporations formed by local initiative for the purpose of promoting private sector economic development within their designated regions; and

WHEREAS, the ARDOR'S represent an economically viable unit with shared interests, resources traditions and goals; and

WHEREAS, those ARDOR'S have successfully coordinated private and public resources to support economic development in their regions; and

WHEREAS, they have provided the State with information on regional economic issues, tourism and opportunities for international trade; and

WHEREAS, they have provided assistance in local economic diversification and development efforts during a time of turmoil and troubles in those local regions; and

WHEREAS, the ARDOR'S serve as a liaison between local governments and businesses in the region and the State of Alaska on issues of a common nature; and

WHEREAS, those organizations have been successful in their economic development mission; and

WHEREAS, the original legislation had a sunset clause that ended the program in 1993; and

WHEREAS, that repeal was extended until the end of fiscal year 1997; so

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Alaska State Chamber of Commerce that it is in the best interest of the State of Alaska to continue the ARDOR program and to insure the ongoing economic viability of Alaska's various regions; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED BY the Board of Directors of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce we support this issue as being of statewide importance in the process of adopting our legislative priorities for the 1997 legislative session.

Passed and approved by the Board of Directors of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce this 6th day of December, 1996.