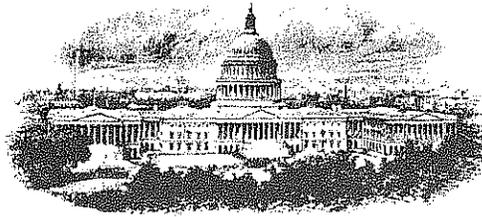


DON YOUNG
CONGRESSMAN FOR ALL ALASKA
WASHINGTON OFFICE
2111 RAYBURN BUILDING
TELEPHONE 202-225-5765



COMMITTEE ON
RESOURCES
COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION
REPUBLICAN
POLICY COMMITTEE

*Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515*

May 20, 2009

The Honorable Claire McCaskill
Chairman
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight
Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman McCaskill,

I understand that you have scheduled a hearing regarding Alaska Native Corporations (ANCs) participation in the Small Business Administration's 8(a) contracting program on July 16, 2009 in the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight. While Congressional oversight of such programs is important, I ask you to ensure that the ANCs are given the time and guidance needed to properly respond to any and all of the Committee's requests.

First, I ask that you give the 20 ANCs from which you requested information the proper amount of time needed to collect the significant volume of data requested by extending the deadline to 30 days, rather than the original deadline of 13 business days. Collecting this information will require significant manpower and almost assuredly cannot reasonably be completed by the imposed deadline. Thirteen business days from the date of the original letter simply is not enough time to compile and process eight years of data. Also, most of the ANCs have already provided this information to the Government Accountability Office for the years 2000-2004, which released its report in 2006. Narrowing the current request to data from 2005 – 2008 would better allow for a quick response and prevent the hearing from going over ground already covered.

Secondly, I ask that you provide the proper guidance to the ANCs regarding the scope, purpose and context of the hearing. For example, will this hearing be part of an examination of federal contracting practices, or all Small Business Administration contracting programs?

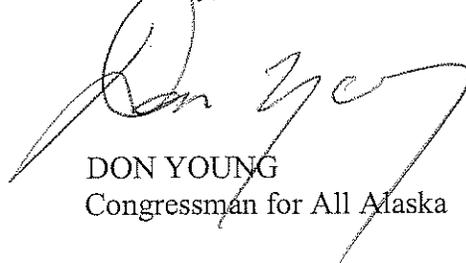
It is also important that you provide the ANCs the chance to tell their story during the hearing. There are numerous members of Alaska Native Corporations that have benefited from all aspects of the program and who, if allowed to testify, would provide members of the Subcommittee a chance to learn about the many benefits of ANC participation in the 8(a) program to individual shareholders and the Alaska Native community.

As one of the original drafters of the legislation allowing ANC participation in the 8(a) program, I am available to testify on the congressional intent and legislative history of the program, as well as the many benefits that ANC participation has provided to the country, the state of Alaska and Alaska Natives.

Finally, I would like to extend an invitation to yourself, the members of the Subcommittee and your staff to come to Alaska and see for yourself the benefits that the 8(a) program has provided to the state and the Alaska Native community. It has provided economic and educational opportunity to some of the most impoverished areas of our country where previously there was none.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Young", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

DON YOUNG
Congressman for All Alaska

cc: Senator Susan Collins, Ranking Member