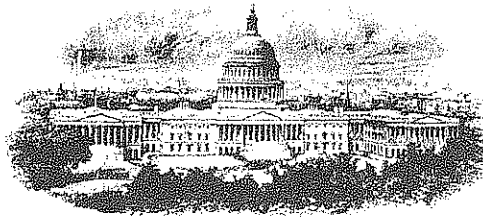


**DON YOUNG**  
CONGRESSMAN FOR ALL ALASKA  
  
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TELEPHONE 202-225-5765



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

COMMITTEE ON  
RESOURCES  
  
COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION  
  
REPUBLICAN  
POLICY COMMITTEE

June 24, 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

The Honorable Susan Collins  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight  
Committee on Homeland Security  
and Government Affairs  
350 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman McCaskill and Ranking Member Collins,

I write in advance of the 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 to once again urge you to include a representative from the Alaska Native Community in the witness panel and to offer my services in helping you better understand Alaska Native Participation in the 8(a) program.

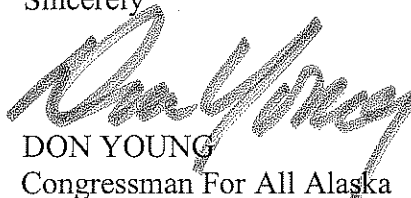
Like all government programs, the 8(a) program needs oversight to ensure it is not abused. In order for oversight to be effective, however, it must take a fair and balanced look at the program and look at both the positives and negatives of a program. If the benefits of a program are ignored it is just as damaging to the country as ignoring problems that may be occurring. A fair and balanced look at Alaska Native participation in the 8(a) program must include witnesses from the Alaska Native community that have reaped the benefits of the program. Written testimony is not enough for the members of the Subcommittee to properly understand the impact of the program. In my time representing Alaska, I have met countless Alaska Natives who have benefited from the opportunities created by their Alaska Native Corporation's participation in the 8(a) program and I would be happy to work with you in identifying witnesses from the Alaska Native community to testify.

Additionally, it is important to know the history of a program in order to properly understand it. As one of the original drafters of the legislation allowing ANC participation in the 8(a) program and the only remaining member of the Alaska delegation, I can provide a unique insight into the program. Since 1986, I have seen Alaska Native participation in the program increase and I have seen the goals that Congress had in mind begin to be fulfilled. Alaska Natives have educational and economic opportunities now that they did not have before 1986 and that is because of their participation in the 8(a) program. I would be happy to testify on the

reasons and intentions behind each of the rules of participation in the 8(a) for Alaska Native Corporations, Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian Organizations.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you need any additional information, please feel free to contact Thomas Ryan of my staff at 5-5765.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Don Young", is written over the printed name and title.

DON YOUNG  
Congressman For All Alaska

DY/tr