

LISA MURKOWSKI
ALASKA

COMMITTEES:
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
RANKING MEMBER
APPROPRIATIONS
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS
INDIAN AFFAIRS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0203
(202) 224-6665
(202) 224-5301 FAX

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510 L STREET, SUITE 550
ANCHORAGE, AK 99501-1956
(907) 271-3735

101 12TH AVENUE, ROOM 216
FAIRBANKS, AK 99701-6278
(907) 456-0233

805 FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 105
KENAI, AK 99611-9104
(907) 283-5808

4079 TONGASS AVENUE, SUITE 204
KETCHIKAN, AK 99901-5526
(907) 225-6880

851 EAST WESTPOINT DRIVE, SUITE 307
WASILLA, AK 99654-7142
(907) 376-7665

The Honorable Tom Harkin, Chairman
The Honorable Thad Cochran, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Senate Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member:

As you develop the Fiscal Year 2011 Appropriations bill for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, I would appreciate your positive consideration of programs that are particularly important to the Alaska Native residents of Alaska within the Department of Education budget. All of these programs are effective and provide important benefits to many in Alaska and across the country.

I am requesting the same amount of funding for FY11 as was received in either FY10 or FY09. While I would prefer to request increases in funding for these programs, the federal deficit and national debt require fiscal restraint. I therefore ask that you provide the following amounts for these valuable and effective programs:

- \$33.3 million for the Alaska Native Educational Equity (ANEE) program. One of my highest priorities, ANEE allows grantees to provide effective and desperately-needed programs that assist Alaska Native students to achieve academic proficiency. ANEE is authorized by 20 U.S.C. 7541-46.
- \$1 million for the program entitled Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics with a Focus on Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Students. Authorized under 20 U.S.C. 1161j, this program supports the efforts of the University of Alaska, the University of Hawaii, and the Maui Economic Development to increase Native students' proficiency in the STEM fields in middle and high school and to increase Native entry into and graduation from college with degrees in the STEM fields.
- \$15 million for the Strengthening Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions program, authorized by Title III of the Higher Education Act, which assists eligible institutions of higher education to increase their self-sufficiency and expand their capacity to serve low-income students
- \$8.7 million for the ECHO (Education through Cultural and Historical Organizations) program. This program supports the efforts of the Inupiat Heritage Center, the Alaska Native Heritage Center, and other institutions across the country to provide educational programming, internships and apprenticeships, cultural exchanges, and collection preservation of Native cultural history. ECHO is authorized by 20 U.S.C. 7265.

I certify that neither I nor members of my immediate family have a pecuniary interest in the programs noted above, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator