

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

March 30, 2010

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 Daniel K. Inouye  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert C. Byrd  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable George Voinovich  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Inouye, Ranking Member Cochran, Chairman Byrd, and Ranking Member Voinovich:

As you prepare the FY11 Homeland Security appropriations bill, I respectfully request that you include funding for the following U.S. Coast Guard programs:

**Project / Program Area:** HH-60 Helicopter

**Recipients(s)/Location:** U.S. Coast Guard; Kodiak, AK

**Amount Requested:** \$24,000,000 to construct one (1) CG HH-60 Helicopter

**Agency, Account:** Coast Guard; Acquisition, Constructions, and Improvements

**Purpose:** To construct an additional HH-60 helicopter for stationing and use at Coast Guard Air Station Kodiak. The additional HH-60 would provide the Air Station with a self-rescue asset in the event of a Coast Guard aviation emergency. Currently, the Air Station's compliment of helicopters does not permit them to provide deployed Coast Guard crews with the ability to be rescued in the event of an emergency. Given the vast distances that the Air Station is required to cover in Alaska, combined with the varying and oftentimes extreme weather conditions that they encounter during many of their missions, the Coast Guard crews that work in Alaska are consistently in harm's way. The requested funds would be spent to combine two existing helicopter frames in the Coast Guard inventory to make one 'new' operational helicopter.

**Project / Program Area:** Coast Guard Cutter ACUSHNET and four (4) High Endurance Cutters

**Recipients(s)/Location:** U.S. Coast Guard

**Amount Requested:** \$8.8M for ACUSHNET; \$15.1M per WMEC (Funds represent operating expenses, personnel and routine maintenance costs needed to continue operating through the end of FY11).

**Agency, Account:** Coast Guard; Operating Expenses

**Purpose:** Restoration of funding for the remainder of FY11 for United States Coast Guard Cutters ACUSHNET, HAMILTON, CHASE, RUSH and JARVIS. The President's FY11 budget proposes to terminate funding for and calls for the decommissioning of 5 Coast Guard Cutters. The removal of these assets before there are suitable, proven replacements in the Coast Guard's cutter inventory would dramatically reduce the Coast Guard's mission effectiveness and ability to patrol and secure the maritime boundaries of the United States. While understanding that these vessels have reached or are reaching the end of their intended service lives, decommissioning these vessels before replacement cutters are available would put at risk the safety and security of fishermen and mariners up and down our nation's coastline. By keeping these cutters in service, the Coast Guard will be able to continue to cover their required maritime and homeland security mission objectives, while being able to continue to develop and deploy new cutters. The requested funds would be spent to keep ACUSHNET and the 4 WMEC's in service for another year.

I certify that to the best of my knowledge neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending item(s) that I have requested for Fiscal Year 2011, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

I further certify that I have posted a description of the items requested on my official website, along with the accompanying justification. Thank you for your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senator