



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 12, 2018

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The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN), the state's largest statewide Native organization, supports the efforts of Representative Don Young, Senator Lisa Murkowski and Senator Dan Sullivan to add the equitable revenue sharing amendment to an appropriations bill pending in the U.S. House of Representatives and a related bill in the Senate. The amendment would address a historical inequity and direct 3 percent of the non-federal share of Arctic National Wildlife Refuge revenues to support the overall health and well-being of Alaska Natives.

"We are gratified that our congressional delegation and their colleagues in Congress remain committed to supporting Alaskans through fair and equitable revenue sharing," said AFN President Julie Kitka. "AFN thanks Representative Tom Cole of Oklahoma, one of the only Native Americans in Congress, for proposing the amendment in the House Appropriations Committee." "It is part of a continuum of redressing past inequities that began but did not end with ANCSA, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971," Kitka said.

ANCSA established revenue sharing as a fundamental principle. The 7(i) provision states that the regional Native corporations must share 70 percent of the revenue from certain resource development on their lands with each other. The proposed amendment specifies that the 3 percent share will be distributed to Alaska Native corporations according to the 7(i) provision.

The increase in the federal and state royalty share from 1/8th to 1/6th obtained by the Alaska congressional delegation was a win-win situation that allowed this provision to advance.

The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska. Its membership includes 186 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations, and 12 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs. AFN's mission is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community.