

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 13, 2010

Honorable Carl Levin
Chairman
Senate Committee on Armed Services
228 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable John McCain
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Armed Services
228 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Levin and Ranking Member McCain:

I seek your continued support for the following items, including congressionally directed spending, as you engage in conference committee with our House colleagues.

Legislative Provisions in S.3454:

- *Section 2853*, Sense of the Senate on the proposed extension of the Alaska Railroad corridor across Federal land in Alaska.
- *Section 702*, Extension of Dependent Coverage under the TRICARE Program.
- *Section 1047*, Military Impacts of Renewable Energy Development Projects and Other Energy Projects.
- *Section 604*, Report on Costs Incurred by Members Undergoing Permanent Change of Duty Station in Excess of Allowances.
- *Section 233*, Medium Extended Air Defense System (MEADS).

Authorized Funding in S. 3454:

1. **Item:** Alaska National Guard Counterdrug Program
Request: \$3M
Account: OMDW, Transfer Accounts
Line: Drug Interdiction
PE Number: 0105 010
Suggested Recipient: Alaska National Guard
Suggested Location of Performance: Statewide

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2. **Item:** PermaFrost Tunnel
Request: \$1M
Account: RDA
Line: 50
PE: 0603728A
Suggested Recipient: Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory AND US Army Corps of Engineers
Suggested Location of Performance: Fox, Alaska

3. **Item:** Kodiak Launch Complex
Request: \$9.5M
Account: OPA
Line: 43
PE: 060383OF
Suggested Recipient: Alaska Aerospace Corporation
Suggested Location of Performance: Kodiak, Alaska

4. **Item:** Future Tactical Truck Composite Shelter
Request: \$2M
Account: RDA
Line: 33
PE Number: 0603005A
Suggested Recipient: Alakan Shelter
Suggested Location of Performance: Fairbanks, AK

5. **Item:** Acoustic Search Glider
Request: \$1.5M
Account: RDN
Line: 13
PE Number: 0602747N
Suggested Recipient: ANT, LLC
Suggested Location of Performance: Anchorage, AK

6. **Project:** Add to and Alter Communications Facility
Request: \$6,500,000
Account: Military Construction, ANG
Project Number: FTQW059901
Service Component: ANG
Project Location: Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska

7. **Project:** DOD Joint Regional Fire Training Facility
Request: \$6,600,000
Account: Military Construction, Air Force
Project Number: FXSB053024
Service Component: Air Force
Project Location: Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska

8. **Project:** Expand Physical Fitness Facility
Request: \$2.7 for Planning and Design (Appropriated, not authorized)
Account: Military Construction, Army
Project Number: 61515
Service Component: Army
Project Location: Fort Richardson, Alaska

9. **Project:** Add/Alter Air Support Operations Squadron Training Facility
Request: Support President's Budget, \$4,749,000
Account: Military Construction, Air Force
Project Number: FXSB123201
Service Component: Air Force
Project Location: Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska

10. **Project:** F-22 Add/Alter Weapons Release Systems Shop & AME (TFI)
Request: Support President's Budget, \$10,525,000
Account: Military Construction, Air Force
Project Number: FXSB073012
Service Component: Air Force
Project Location: Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska

11. **Project:** Construct Railhead Operations Facility
Request: Support President's Budget, \$15,000,000
Account: Military Construction, Air Force
Project Number: FXSB061827
Service Component: Air Force
Project Location: Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska

12. **Project:** Repair Central Heat and Power Plant Boiler
Request: Support President's Budget, \$28,000,000
Account: Military Construction, Air Force
Project Number: FTQW083008
Service Component: Air Force
Project Location: Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska

13. **Project:** Aviation Task Force Complex, Ph 2A
Request: Support President's Budget, \$142,650,000
Account: Military Construction, Army
Project Number: 67112
Service Component: Army
Project Location: Fort Wainwright, Alaska

14. **Project:** Aviation Task Force Complex, Ph 2b
Request: Support President's Budget, \$27,000,000
Account: Military Construction, Army
Project Number: 76873
Service Component: Army
Project Location: Fort Wainwright, Alaska

15. **Project:** Urban Assault Course
Request: Support President's Budget, \$3,350,000
Account: Military Construction, Army
Project Number: 71697
Service Component: Army
Project Location: Fort Wainwright, Alaska

16. **Project:** Family Housing Replacement Construction
Request: Support President's Budget, \$21,000,000
Account: Military Construction, Army
Project Number: 75305
Service Component: Army
Project Location: Fort Wainwright, Alaska

17. **Project:** Multipurpose Machine Gun Range
Request: Support President's Budget, \$12,200,000
Account: Military Construction, Army
Project Number: 73811
Service Component: Army
Project Location: Fort Richardson, Alaska

18. **Project:** Simulations Center
Request: Support President's Budget, \$34,000,000
Account: Military Construction, Army
Project Number: 57369
Service Component: Army
Project Location: Fort Richardson, Alaska

19. **Project:** Brigade Complex, Ph 1
Request: Support President's Budget, \$67,038,000
Account: Military Construction, Army
Project Number: 55695
Service Component: Army
Project Location: Fort Richardson, Alaska

20. **Project:** Fire Station
Request: Support President's Budget, \$26,000,000
Account: Military Construction, Army
Project Number: 55873
Service Component: Army
Project Location: Fort Greely, Alaska

Legislative Provision in H.R.5136

- Section 2842, land conveyance to the city of Whittier, Alaska. This provision was not included in S.3454 because the Department of Interior had not provided comment on the initiative. In November, the Department of Interior concurred with the conveyance (attachment).

Authorized Funding included in H.R.5136:

- \$485.0 million for the F136 competitive engine program in PEs 64800F, 64800N, and 64800M to drive down cost and increase performance and reliability.

Senators Levin and McCain

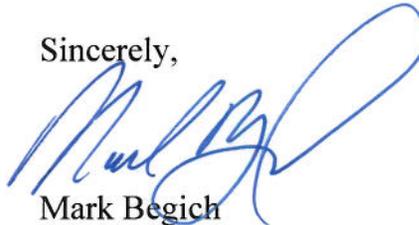
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Additionally, I request no provisions limiting or altering Alaska Native participation in the Small Business Administration's (SBA's) 8(a) Business Development Program be included in the final bill. The SBA program provides small and disadvantaged businesses, Indian tribes, Alaska Native corporations, and Native Hawaiian organizations greater access to the federal marketplace and promotes business success. Any legislative proposals impacting the program warrant full consideration by the committees of jurisdiction, impacted communities, and other stakeholders before being voted on by the Congress.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests and your continued leadership. If you have any questions, please contact Lindsay Kavanaugh of my staff at (202) 224-3004.

Sincerely,



Mark Begich
United States Senator



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Washington, D.C. 20240
<http://www.blm.gov>



NOV 16 2010

The Honorable Mark Begich
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Begich:

Thank you for your June 18, 2010, letter to Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar regarding a proposed land conveyance in Whittier, Alaska. Secretary Salazar has asked me to respond to your letter on his behalf.

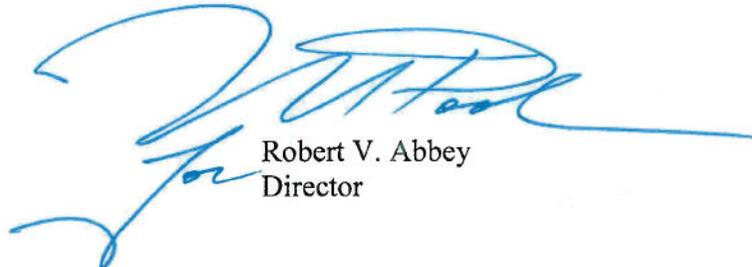
Conveyance of these lands to the City of Whittier is preferable to having the lands come back to the Department of the Interior to manage, as would occur under Public Land Order 587 of May 23, 1949, when they are no longer needed for military purposes. The Department of the Interior defers to the Department of Defense on this determination.

Since the Department of the Interior does not have lands under its jurisdiction in the proximity of the subject lands being considered for disposal, the Department has no objection to this proposed action. However, the Department has an important technical correction to the legislative language that your office provided to the Department. Since the Secretary of the Interior is responsible for cadastral survey of all Federal lands, it is important that subsection (f) of the draft language clearly state that the survey responsibility resides with the Secretary of the Interior. To reflect this responsibility, subsection (f) should be modified to read:

(f) The exact acreage and legal description of the parcel of real property to be conveyed under this section shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this matter. If you have further questions, please contact me at 202-208-3801.

Sincerely,



Robert V. Abbey
Director