

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 13, 2010

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

The 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:

Please accept this addendum to my letter dated March 12, 2010, requesting non-Military Construction projects to be considered in the Fiscal Year 2011 National Defense Authorization Act. This letter includes information previously not provided for the project titled SpringBoard Technology Transfer, as well as four additional requests for bill language, and two additional requests for report language.

**Item:** SpringBoard Technology Transfer

**Amount:** \$2,400,000 *[information previously not provided]*

**Account:** RDDW

**Line:** 123

**PE Number:** 060502DBTA

**Suggested Recipient:** Juneau Economic Development Council

**Suggested Location of Performance:** Juneau, AK

**Purpose/Project Description:** SpringBoard helps fulfill the Department of Defense (DOD) mandate to commercialize public funded inventions and enhances US global economic competitiveness and military preparedness by providing business and technical assistance to help companies meet DOD mission requirements, and by promoting literacy in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) through proven professional development for teachers, engaging enrichment activities for students, and public advocacy. Collectively, these activities expand business prospects, stimulate economic growth and increase the number of professional and technical positions to support the economy. SpringBoard's technology transfer activities: Facilitate licensing of DOD-developed technologies to companies nationwide. Craft and facilitate joint Research and Development (R&D) agreements between DOD labs and entrepreneurs. Assist companies commercializing DOD technologies by providing technologies, technical assistance and management consulting, supporting company growth and new job creation. Discover and support

commercialization of technologies developed in the private sector having DOD relevance. SpringBoard's STEM programs: facilitate and expand the internationally renowned FIRST robotics competitions throughout Alaska to enhance classroom achievement in STEM areas. Broaden the diversity of enrichment programs currently offered to students to include exploration of material science, K-12 robotics, biological sciences, sustainable energies, cyrospheric science, and aerospace technologies. Expand the nationally recognized SeaPerch underwater remote-operated vehicle program by including more hands-on research in marine science. Offer relevant, ongoing, hands-on professional development for teachers with clear connections to classroom curriculum and current best practices. Educate the public about the role and importance of STEM literacy as an economic engine through invited speakers, events, book clubs and other forms of public discourse. Lacking direct access to industry partners, DOD initiated a Partnership Intermediary Agreement (PIA) with SpringBoard – one of only 5 in the nation – in 2006 to help develop markets for DOD technologies with a long-range goal of improving both military and economic competitiveness. The Juneau Economic Development Council seeks continuation of its present level of federal SpringBoard funding to cover anticipated program operating costs for FY2011.

#### ADDITIONAL REQUESTS FOR BILL LANGUAGE

- SERVICE MEMBERS PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION RELIEF ACT

##### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Service Members Permanent Change of Station Relief Act'.

##### SEC. 2. MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE FOR MEMBERS OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL RELATED TO CHANGE OF PERMANENT STATION.

Section 404(d)(1)(A) of title 37, United States Code, is amended by striking 'monetary allowance' and all follows through the period at the end and inserting the following: 'monetary allowance in place of the cost of transportation-- '(i) in the case of a member for whom travel has been authorized in connection with a change of a change of permanent station or for travel described in paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a), at the business standard mileage rate set by the Internal Revenue Service pursuant to section 1.274.5(j)(2) of title 26, Code of Federal Regulations; and '(ii) in the case of a member's dependent for whom such travel has been authorized, at the rate provided in section 5704 of title 5.'

SEC. 3. TRANSPORTATION OF ADDITIONAL MOTOR VEHICLE OF MEMBERS ON CHANGE OF PERMANENT STATION TO OR FROM NONFOREIGN AREAS OUTSIDE THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES.

(a) Authority To Transport Additional Motor Vehicle- Subsection (a) of section 2634 of title 10, United States Code, is amended-- (1) by striking the sentence following paragraph (4); (2) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4) as subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D), respectively; (3) by inserting `(1)' after `(a)'; and (4) by adding at the end the following new paragraph: `(2) One additional motor vehicle of a member (or a dependent of the member) may be transported as provided in paragraph (1) if--(A) the member is ordered to make a change of permanent station to or from a nonforeign area outside the continental United States and the member has at least one dependent of driving age who will use the motor vehicle; or (B) the Secretary concerned determines a replacement for the motor vehicle transported under paragraph (1) is necessary for reasons beyond the control of the member and is in the interest of the United States and the Secretary approves the transportation in advance.'. (b) Technical and Conforming Amendments- Such subsection is further amended--(1) by striking `his dependents' and inserting `a dependent of the member'; (2) by striking `him' and inserting `the member'; (3) by striking `his)' and inserting `the member)'; (4) by striking `his new' and inserting `the member's new'; and (5) in paragraph (1)(C), as redesignated by subsection (a)--(A) by striking `clauses (1) and (2)' and inserting `subparagraphs (A) and (B)'; and (B) by inserting `or' after the semicolon.

SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. The amendments made by this Act shall take effect on January 1, 2011, and apply with respect to a permanent change of station order issued on or after that date to a member of the uniformed services.

- SENSE OF THE SENATE AND REPORT REGARDING THE ALASKA RAILROAD'S PROPOSAL TO EXTEND ITS RAILROAD CORRIDOR ACROSS FEDERAL LAND IN ALASKA

The Alaska Railroad proposes the extension of its railroad corridor over approximately 950 acres of land located south and east of North Pole, Alaska, including, but not limited to lands located near or adjacent to the Chena River spillway, Eielson Air Force Base, Tanana Flats Training Area (Fort Wainwright), Donnelly Training Area (Fort Wainwright), and Fort Greely, for the purpose of supporting and promoting economic development. It is the sense of the Senate the Department of the Army, the Department of the Air Force, the Department of the Interior, and the federal agencies controlling the land over which the Alaska Railroad wants to extend its railroad corridor, should explore the most desirable method of accomplishing this goal using existing authorities and without adversely impacting military missions. Not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, the Department

of Defense shall submit to the committee a report detailing the ability to utilize existing authorities.

- ARCTIC REGION SUPERCOMPUTING CENTER

Notwithstanding 10 USC 2361, 10 USC 2304(k), and 41 USC 253(i), the Department of Defense, High Performance Computing Modernization Program, is authorized to extend, for a period of five years, its current contract with the University of Alaska Fairbanks Arctic Region Supercomputing Center.

- CERTAIN COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

Distribution Of Officers On Active Duty In Grades Of Major, Lieutenant Colonel, And Colonel And Navy Grades Of Lieutenant Commander, Commander, And Captain – Section 523(b) of Title 10, United States Code, is amended –

- (1) by adding at the end the following:  
“(8) Nurse Officers.”

#### ADDITIONAL REQUESTS FOR REPORT LANGUAGE

- ARCTIC REGION SUPERCOMPUTING CENTER

Researchers at the University of Alaska Fairbanks Arctic Region Supercomputer Center (ARSC) assist a global community of researchers in ensuring the Department meets its national security research objectives through its supercomputing resources. The Committee is aware the Department has recently made changes to management of super computer resources, including the decision to consolidate many supercomputers at the University of Illinois. The Committee supports the relocation of supercomputers. However, the Committee is concerned valuable expertise and experience, like the ARSC, may be lost due to the relocation. Therefore, the Committee encourages the Department to continue utilizing existing research personnel located at ARSC to manage super computers to ensure Department research objectives are met.

- REPORT ON THE ADDITION OF AN O-7 BILLET TO THE U.S. ARMY AND U.S. AIR FORCE NURSE CORPS

The Committee strongly recommends the Department of Defense study designating any additional billets resulting from the General Officer review process for Medical professionals Corps a permanent O-7 billet for the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force

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Nursing Corps commensurate with the force structure of the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps. This would bring all three service branch Nurse Corps into parity. The Committee requests the Department study the Nurse Corps current schedule, which appoints an O-6 to the rank of O-8, its current impact on morale, leadership, career development, and transition to the responsibilities of a senior executive in medicine; the justification used in promoting from an O-6 to an O-8, and justifying a non-sequential billet as compared to non-Nurse Corps officers. The Department shall examine and report back to the relevant Congressional Committees what responsibilities and duties the addition of an O-7 billet in the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force Nurse Corps would retain, while maintaining and sustaining the current O-8 billet; impacts such an appointment might have, and if the Department and corresponding service branches conclude such an appointment is not necessary, the justifications and methodology supporting such a finding; and how both the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force differ in needs and requirements from that of the U.S. Navy for the continued disparity found between the three Corps.

I certify neither my immediate family nor I have a pecuniary interest, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, in any congressionally directed spending item I requested for inclusion in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Begich', is written over a horizontal line.

Mark Begich  
United States Senator