May 10, 2016

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500-0004

Subject: Thank You for Passage of S. 192, Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act

Dear Mr. President:

The Alaska Commission on Aging, a governor-appointed commission within the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, extends its heartfelt thanks to you for signing S. 192 to reauthorize the Older Americans Act. For fifty years, the vision for the Older Americans Act has supported the efforts of older Americans so they are able to age with honor, dignity, and independence. We are very grateful to you and the Members of Congress who have worked diligently to support this important legislation that includes many important provisions which seek to modernize the Older Americans Act – such as the emphasis on person-centeredness, state flexibility in the provision of senior services, promotion of elder safety, innovations for fall prevention and chronic disease self-management programs, and the delivery of culturally appropriate services in addition to the increased funding authorization for Older American Act services. These provisions will benefit the growing numbers of older Alaskans and seniors nationwide.

For the sixth consecutive year, Alaska continues to lead all states in having the fastest growing population of older adults per capita. According to the 2015 population estimates prepared by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, seniors (persons age 60 and older) number 120,444, which is a 4.2% increase from 2014. Seniors represent 16% of Alaska’s total population and comprise the fastest growing age demographic in our state. Further, Alaska’s senior population is projected to double by 2042. Rather than being overwhelmed by concerns of a growing older adult population, Alaska is tapping the power of aging to be part of the solution to effect positive change that will benefit its entire people, young and old.

Often overlooked are the significant social and economic contributions of our nation’s older people that have a positive cumulative impact on the states and communities where they live. In Alaska, seniors represent an approximate $3 billion industry; – this does not include their countless hours of community volunteer service and family caregiving that have an estimated value of $90 million annually. Seniors truly appreciate the services they receive, many of which are funded by the Older Americans Act, including senior meals, transportation, adult day services, family caregiver respite, homemaker services, elder protection, informational services, health promotion and disease prevention activities, in addition to senior vocational training and legal services. These services are critical to senior health and well-being, provide support to their family caregivers, and allow older adults to continue living and contributing to the betterment of their families and communities. In return, Alaska greatly benefits from the economic and social resources that seniors provide.

Based on the Presidential Proclamation for May is Older Americans Month, Governor Bill Walker has signed the Official Proclamation to recognize and honor older Alaskans. Alaska's Proclamation (enclosed) recognizes the
foundational contributions of Alaska’s pioneers who helped to develop our great state, persons who served as members of the U.S. Armed Forces, and the growing number of Alaskan Centenarians who celebrated their 100th year birthday, or more, in this year. Acknowledging Governor Walker’s recognition of Alaskan Centenarians, we are publicly recognizing 22 Alaska Centenarians who have provided their consent during the Older Americans Month celebrations across our great state. The list of Centenarians is enclosed.

Thank you, Mr. President, for passage of the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act and for your continued leadership in serving our country!

Sincerely,

Mary E. Shields
Chair, Alaska Commission on Aging

Denise Daniello
ACoA Executive Director

Attachments:  Alaska Commission on Aging Board Roster
               Executive Proclamation of Older Americans Month in Alaska

Bottom row, left to right: Duane Mayes, Department of Health and Social Services designee, Director for Senior and Disabilities Services; Anna Frank, public member from Fairbanks; Rachel Greenberg, senior services provider, Executive Director for Mat-Su Senior Services; and Marie Darlin, public member from Juneau.

Top row, left to right: David Blacketer, public member from Kodiak; Denise Daniello, Executive Director for Alaska Commission on Aging; Gordon Glaser, public member from Anchorage; Mary Shields, Chair, Alaska Commission on Aging and public member from Anchorage; and Paula Pawlowski, Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Director for Serve Alaska. Not pictured include: Eleanor Dementi, public member from Cantwell; Edna DeVries, public member from Palmer; and Bob Sivertsen, Pioneer Home Advisory Board Chair from Ketchikan.
Mary Shields, Chair  
3941 East 7th Ave.  
Anchorage, AK 99508  
Phone: (907) 333-9336  
Email: marvys@ak.net  
Term Expires: 9/1/2016  

Edna DeVries, Public Member  
305 North Bonanza Street  
Palmer, Alaska 99645  
Phone: (907) 745-3388  
Email: ednadevries@yahoo.com  
Term Expires: 9/1/2016  

David Blacketer, Public Member  
1949 Mission Road #9  
Kodiak, AK 99615  
Phone: (907) 486-2598  
Email: david.a.blacketer@gmail.com  
Term Expires: 9/1/2019  

Gordon Glaser, Public Member  
1029 Potlatch Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
Phone: (907) 240-0177 (cell)  
Phone: (907) 276-3416 (home)  
Email: mensch@acsalaska.net  
Term Expires: 10/1/2017  

Duane Mayes, Department of Health & Social Services Designated Seat  
Division of Senior & Disabilities Services  
Division Director  
550 W. 8th Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Phone: (907) 269-2083  
Email: duane.mayes@alaska.gov  

Eleanor Dementi, Public Member  
P.O. Box 14  
Cantwell, AK 99729  
Phone: (907) 317-0128  
Email: edementi@yahoo.com  
Term Expires: 9/1/2016  

Marie Darlin, Public Member  
415 Willoughby, #506  
Juneau, AK 99801  
Phone: (907) 586-3637 Fax: (907) 463-3580  
Term Expires: 9/1/2019  

Paula Pawlowski, Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development, Designated Seat  
Serve Alaska, Executive Director  
550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1640  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3501  
Phone: (907) 269-6720 Fax: (907) 269-5666  
Email: paula.pawlowski@alaska.gov  

Bob Sivertsen, Pioneer Home Advisory Chair  
3817 Alaska Ave.  
Ketchikan, AK 99901  
Phone: (907) 225-3691  
Email: rwsivertsen@gmail.com  
Term: Serves on ACoA Board in the designated seat for the Pioneer Home Advisory Board Chair  

Anna Frank, Public Member  
1578 Bridgewater Drive  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
Phone: (907) 456-5781 Fax: (907) 456-6552  
Email: afrank@gci.net  
Term Expires: 9/1/2016  

Rachel Greenberg, Senior Service Provider  
Palmer Senior Center, Inc. d.b.a. MAT-SU Senior Services  
1132 S. Chugach  
Palmer, AK 99645  
Phone: (907) 745-5454  
Email: pscc@mtaonline.net  
Term Expires: 9/1/2017  

ALL 11 SEATS VOTE (6 = A QUORUM)  
ACoA Staff  
Denise Danielleo, Executive Director  
denise.daniello@alaska.gov / (907) 465-4879  

Dee Shaw, Planner II  
(907) 465-4792  
deirdre.shaw@alaska.gov  

Lesley Thompson, Planner  
(907) 465-4793  
lesley.thompson@alaska.gov  

Alaska Commission on Aging  
P.O. Box 110693  
Juneau, AK 99811-0693  
www.alaskaaging.org  

May 2016
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Julia Richardson</td>
<td>5310 Windflower ST # A</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK 99507-1667</td>
<td>11/14/1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mattie Osterback</td>
<td>7637 Winchester ST</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK 99507-4814</td>
<td>8/22/1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ina Twitchell</td>
<td>233 N Hoyt St</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK 99508-1603</td>
<td>12/12/1914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felipe L Sy</td>
<td>3240 Penland Parkway, Space 103</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK 99508-1911</td>
<td>11/26/1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Furguson</td>
<td>1801 Crescent Circle</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK 99508-5117</td>
<td>1/29/1914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William E Brooks</td>
<td>PO BOX 190807</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK 99519-0807</td>
<td>2/9/1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry M Barksdale</td>
<td>16533 Old Glenn Hwy SPC 14</td>
<td>Chugiak, AK 99567-6942</td>
<td>1/7/1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louise A. Thompson</td>
<td>301 7th Ave. Apt. 308</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK 99701</td>
<td>6/7/1914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willy Lou Warbelow-Young</td>
<td>620 Fideler Road</td>
<td>Fairbanks, AK 99712-1421</td>
<td>8/7/1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alma E Trucano</td>
<td>PO BOX 20870</td>
<td>Juneau, AK 99802-0870</td>
<td>1/6/1911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sylvia Genner</td>
<td>PO Box21535</td>
<td>Juneau, AK 99802-1535</td>
<td>1/12/1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fern Elam</td>
<td>PO Box 2472</td>
<td>Kenai, AK 99611-2472</td>
<td>9/4/1910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lela (Ahyakee) Oman</td>
<td>13920 E Hay Wagon Way</td>
<td>Palmer, AK 99645-9523</td>
<td>12/15/1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophronia Rogers</td>
<td>123 Green Valley St</td>
<td>Soldotna, AK 99669-7870</td>
<td>11/17/1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John C Hughes</td>
<td>1200 I St. Unit 410</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK 99501-5234</td>
<td>5/22/1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph T Rayfield</td>
<td>P.O. Box 491</td>
<td>Willow, AK 99688-0491</td>
<td>2/8/1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blanka R Hirschler</td>
<td>6111 Prosperity Drive</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK 99504-3279</td>
<td>10/10/1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gladys Briske</td>
<td>925 S Chugach Street, Apt 2</td>
<td>Palmer, AK 99645-6600</td>
<td>9/17/1914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rita Foy</td>
<td>923 W 11th Ave., Room 420</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK 99501-4390</td>
<td>7/8/1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruby Lemke</td>
<td>923 W 11th Ave., Room 325</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK 99501-4389</td>
<td>1/2/1916</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>