



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of
Health and Social Services

ALASKA COMMISSION ON AGING

P.O. Box 110693
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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.

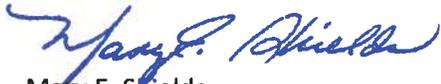
Often overlooked are the significant social and economic contributions of our nation's older people that have a positive cumulative impact on the states and communities where they live. In Alaska, seniors represent an approximate \$3 billion industry; – this does not include their countless hours of 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

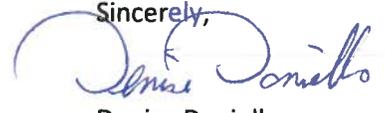
foundational contributions of Alaska's pioneers who helped to develop our great state, persons who served as members of the U.S. Armed Forces, and the growing number of Alaskan Centenarians who celebrated their 100th year birthday, or more, in this year. Acknowledging Governor Walker's recognition of 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

Sincerely,


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.

Alaska Commission on Aging Roster, FY2016

Mary Shields, Chair
3941 East 7th Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99508
Phone: (907) 333-9336
Email: marys@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 Daniello, Executive Director
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(907) 465-4792
deirdre.shaw@alaska.gov

Lesley Thompson, Planner
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P.O. Box 110693
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May is Older Americans Month in Alaska
Alaskan Centenarians, 2016

Name	Address	City	Date of Birth
Julia Richardson	5310 Windflower ST # A	Anchorage, AK 99507-1667	11/14/1915
Mattie Osterback	7637 Winchester ST	Anchorage, AK 99507-4814	8/22/1915
Ina Twitchell	233 N Hoyt St	Anchorage, AK 99508-1603	12/12/1914
Felipe L Sy	3240 Penland Parkway, Space 103	Anchorage, AK 99508-1911	11/26/1915
Katherine Furguson	1801 Crescent Circle	Anchorage, AK 99508-5117	1/29/1914
William E Brooks	PO BOX 190807	Anchorage, AK 99519-0807	2/9/1916
Larry M Barksdale	16533 Old Glenn Hwy SPC 14	Chugiak, AK 99567-6942	1/7/1916
Louise A. Thompson	301 7th Ave. Apt. 308	Fairbanks, AK 99701	6/7/1914
Willy Lou Warbelow-Young	620 Fideler Road	Fairbanks, AK 99712-1421	8/7/1915
Lorraine Dougan	415 Willoughby Ave. Apt. 407	Juneau, AK 99801-1763	6/17/1915
Alma E Trucano	PO BOX 20870	Juneau, AK 99802-0870	1/6/1911
Sylvia Genner	PO Box21535	Juneau, AK 99802-1535	1/12/1916
Fern Elam	PO Box 2472	Kenai, AK 99611-2472	9/4/1910
Lela (Ahyakee) Oman	13920 E Hay Wagon Way	Palmer, AK 99645-9523	12/15/1915
Sophonria Rogers	123 Green Valley St	Soldotna, AK 99669-7870	11/17/1915
John C Hughes	1200 I St. Unit 410	Anchorage, AK 99501-5234	5/22/1915
Joseph T Rayfield	P.O. Box 491	Willow, AK 99688-0491	2/8/1916
Blanka R Hirschler	6111 Prosperity Drive	Anchorage, AK 99504-3279	10/10/1916
Gladys Briske	925 S Chugach Street, Apt 2	Palmer, AK 99645-6600	9/17/1914
Rita Foy	923 W 11th Ave., Room 420	Anchorage, AK 99501-4390	7/8/1915
Ruby Lemke	923 W 11th Ave., Room 325	Anchorage, AK 99501-4389	1/2/1916