

ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGE  
CORPORATION ASSOCIATION



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**February 8, 2016**

**Senator Olson- Sponsor**

**Senator Coghill – State Affairs Committee Co Chair**

**Senator Stoltze – State Affairs Committee Co Chair**

**RE: Indigenous Peoples Day – SB 159**

**Dear Senate State Affairs Committee,**

**In 2015 both Governor Walker and Mayor Berkowitz (Anchorage) recognized the significance of Alaska Native people by proclaiming Indigenous Peoples Day in October. The Alaska Native Village Corporation Association (ANVCA) supports passage of Senate Bill 159, establishing the second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples Day through legislative action, ensuring its continuation.**

**ANVCA appreciates the support and recognition of Alaska Native people. Past, present and future generations all contribute to the State of Alaska. Alaska Native people enhance the economy, culture, labor force, and knowledge for all residents. Thank you for the acknowledgement of our value. If I can be of further service, please contact me.**

**Respectfully,**

**Keja Whiteman**

**Executive Director**