



November 28, 2018

To the Honorable Members of the 115<sup>th</sup> United States Congress,

We, the Petersburg Borough Assembly, are writing in support of reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act. The Secure Rural Schools program (SRS) provides ongoing support to our community, especially our school district, which continues to be affected by the decline in timber harvest on federal lands. Federal lands comprise over 96% of all lands within our school district boundaries and SRS provides one of the few sources of local revenue from this land base. SRS funds historically help supplement local funding for education services and roads. If not reauthorized for FY 2019 and beyond, the expiration at the end of FY 2018 will create budgetary shortfalls in our community.

The Petersburg Borough encourages Congress to act quickly and reauthorize SRS so there is no lapse in funding and we can continue to plan for the future in a responsible manner.

We also encourage our delegation to work with Congress and the SRS communities to develop a long term and sustainable solution to this issue.

Respectfully,

Mark Jensen  
Mayor

Cc: Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski  
Alaska Senator Dan Sullivan  
Alaska Representative Don Young  
Brad Gilman, Robertson, Monagle and Eastaugh  
Ray Matiashowski, Ray Matiashowski and Associates

**Borough Administration**

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