

Debra Thompson

From: Marsha Fernandez <ezoneleft@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 4:20 PM
To: Assembly
Subject: Alaska Landless Natives

Hello to all Assembly Members,

First and foremost thank you all for serving in this position. By the nature of you being on the Assembly it is obvious that you care deeply about our community and nearby surrounding areas.

*As a 20 year resident of Petersburg, before that a 13 year resident of Port Protection, and prior to that 27 year resident of various location from Dutch Harbor to Fairbanks, including Bristol Bay, I have followed the Alaska Native Land Settlement Act quite closely. The injustice dealt to the 5 so called "Landless" communities is an unacceptable situation of oversight and discrimination, that is far past the time of reasonable resolution of this matter and past time to right the wrong. It is without question, to anyone who has studied, in depth, word by word, not only the current bills proposed and before Federal Legislatures for consideration and hopefully passage and final resolution to this issue, but those of us who with in-depth study of the facts of the situation dating back to day 1, approximately **50 years ago** when the Alaska Native Lands Settlement Act (ANILCA) was drafted and then finalized, know that this is just **NOT** a 'land-grab' by the 5 Landless Communities with the intent for their purposed holdings to be logged off in their entirety, nor is the primary goal to obtain these various land locations for the sole purpose of denying the nonnative user of these Tongass National Forest Lands, to be excluded from ever again setting forth on and recreating on these lands. After all, I encourage you all to recognize and verify thru your own form of research and indebt study, that these 5 Landless communities have a documented wide spread presence in all of these 5 proposed land selection areas, that dates back not a mere hundred years or a single thousand years, but 10,000 years! So let us all keep in mind, especially the current land users and people who are so opposed and saying that these Landless community members have already been compensated by the very nature that they are members of the Regional Native Corp., Sealaska, the 'umbrella' corporation in SE Alaska. They are so very, very wrong and I would encourage them to do further in-depth research into how Regional corporations and Village corporations differ. It would also be wise to not live in the past and to expect, anticipate and assume, these 5 purposed Landless corporations will follow in the same footsteps of the **original** corporations, be them Regional or Village, and that these 5 newly formed corporations will repeat what is now widely recognized as not the best, nor appropriate practices and techniques that were used then by SOME of the original corporations. As one of my favorite musician, Bob Dylan once put it...."the times they are a changin' ".*

*I appreciate the time dedicated, by each and every one of you, to reading my letter and consideration of my thoughts and facts presented. I encourage you all to support **HB 8751 and SB 4891.***

Thank you for your time dedicated to the numerous and often difficult issues, matters and decisions that, you, Assembly addresses.

*Sincerely,
Marsha D. Fernandez*

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