



Alaska State Legislature House and Senate Democrats

WEB: <http://www.akdemocrats.org>
CONTACT: Jordan Marshall, Press Secretary
PHONE: (907) 465-3842 or 321-3682
FAX: (907) 465-5125
EMAIL: press@akdemocrats.org

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Legislative Report Addresses Jet Purchase

What are federally approved uses for Homeland Security funds?

ANCHORAGE – The State Legislative Research Department issued a report this week that addresses the recent proposal by Governor Frank Murkowski to purchase a jet with federal homeland security funds. The report, prepared at the request of Representative Les Gara (D-Anchorage), outlines federal funding source guidelines for how these funds may be used.

"The report gives us information so we can have an informed discussion about how to protect Alaskan communities," said Representative Gara. "An informed discussion may result in ideas no one has thought of for use of these security funds."

Representative Gara distributed the report to fellow legislators so they can better evaluate the governor's proposal and answer whether or not there are better alternative uses for these funds than the proposed jet purchase.

The report advises in relevant part that the funds may be used on a broad array of matters that include "homeland security and emergency operations planning" and the purchase of specialized equipment to help the state and local agencies "prevent, respond to, and mitigate incidents of terrorism."

A full copy of the report is attached. Please feel free to call Representative Gara's office for additional information: (907) 269-0106.

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