



Alaska State Legislature House and Senate Democrats

Visit our website! www.akdemocrats.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 17, 2001

CONTACT: Jennifer Adzima, 1-888-478-3438

CRAWFORD BACKS GOVERNOR'S MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE PLANS

Juneau- Representative Harry Crawford announced this morning his full support to Governor Tony Knowles' bill that would raise the minimum wage and allow a for increases due to inflation year after year.

Representative Crawford a long time advocate for fair labor conditions is glad to see that this important issue will be dealt with this legislative session.

"I'd like to offer my overwhelming support for the governor's bill this is the single most important thing he can do for help working families," said Representative Harry Crawford.

The bill the Governor introduced today would increase the minimum wage from \$5.65 an hour to \$6.40 an hour, followed by a raise to \$7.15 a year later. From there the wage would then adjust annually to match inflation. This is the first time since statehood in 1959, that the state has taken action to increase the minimum wage.

This is a key step to Moving Alaska Forward.