



Alaska State Legislature House and Senate Democrats

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LINCOLN RESOLUTION RESPONDS TO HATE CRIMES, RACISM

Resolution Condemns Hate Crime, Asks For Civil Rights Investigation

JUNEAU – Today Senator Georgianna Lincoln (D-Rampart) introduced a resolution condemning recent hate crimes perpetrated against Alaska Natives and asking the Legislature to join with AFN in requesting an investigation by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. In part, Lincoln's SJR 19 responds to the hate-crime committed by three Eagle River residents when they attacked Alaska Natives with paint ball guns in Anchorage. The paint-ball attacks followed other racist incidents where Alaska Native women were systematically picked-up and raped over the past five months. Also within the past two years, five Alaska Native women were brutally killed.

"This reflects a growing undercurrent in Alaska -- the undercurrent of racism and discrimination that is moving through Alaska," Lincoln said. "Alaskans abhor these acts of evil and cowardliness and we will pull together to see that justice prevails."

Of all racial groups in Alaska, Natives suffer the highest rate of victimization for sexual assault, robbery, and assault. In the resolution Sen. Lincoln calls upon public officials, private citizens and agencies to speak out publicly and clearly to condemn racism and discrimination in all its forms.

"We must educate those around us and we must condemn those crimes against humanity," added Lincoln. "For Alaska to be prosperous, we must be able to unite and proceed for future generations."

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Sen. Bettye Davis, Sen. Johnny Ellis, Sen. Kim Elton, Sen. Lyman Hoffman, Sen. Georgianna Lincoln, Sen. Donny Olson, Rep. Ethan Berkowitz, Rep. Sharon Cissna, Rep. Harry Crawford, Rep. Eric Croft, Rep. John Davies, Rep. Gretchen Guess, Rep. Joe Hayes, Rep. Reggie Joule, Rep. Mary Kapsner, Rep. Beth Kerttula, Rep. Al Kookesh, Rep. Carl Moses