

## Alaska State Legislature

## Senator Johnny Ellis Representative Les Gara

716 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501

October 11, 2011

Dan Fauske 4300 Boniface Parkway 99504 PO Box 101020 Anchorage, AK 99510-1020

Re: Public Comment – RurAL CAP's request that residents at Karluk Manor be given priority for underfunded Section 8 housing vouchers

Dear Director Fauske:

We are writing to express our concern about the Section 8 program. First, we hope AHFC will help in bringing the housing shortage crisis to the Legislature, so we might help alleviate the long waiting lists for housing for families with limited funds. It is a reality that there are a lot of good people, with a lot of sad personal stories waiting for Section 8 vouchers so they can find a place to live (foster youth; homeless families with school children; etc).

We have heard that RurAL CAP has submitted an application to have Karluk Manor residents placed ahead of other Alaskans with potentially greater need. If this is true, we ask that you reject RurAL CAP's application. It is hard to decide between whom to offer housing to given the extreme housing shortage we have in Alaska for low income families. But a blanket priority as we understand has been requested seems unfair to those who are already on the waiting list, and also have compelling stories.

As legislators representing a district with a high proportion of people on this waiting list, we would be remiss in our duties not to bring this to your attention.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Representative Les Gara

Senator Johnny Ellis