



July 9, 2012

Sen. Begich Joins Alaskans In Celebration of Independence Day



July 4, 2012 - Sen. Begich, Deborah and Jacob spent July 4 in Anchorage celebrating Independence Day with Alaskans across the city.

What a great week I had at home in Alaska, celebrating Independence Day and getting to see many of you in communities across the state. Deborah, Jacob and I rode in the July 4 parade in Anchorage and sampled the food and other fun activities around Anchorage. The week also included stops in Fairbanks, Bethel, Quinhagak and Seward.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, 08/7/2012
 12:00 p.m. (Alaska)
Commonwealth North Luncheon
 Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center

Friday, 08/24/2012
 12:00 p.m. (Alaska)
Anchorage International Rotary Luncheon
 Coast International Inn

Monday, 08/27/2012
 12:00 p.m. (Alaska)
Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Luncheon
 Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center

My Social Networks



Anchorage Park Foundation Mail - FW: News from Senator Begich; July 9, 2012: Sen. Begich Joins Ala...
 in Bethel, I hosted a roundtable discussion about the record low King Salmon runs on the Yukon and Kuskokwim rivers. It was important to hear first-hand about the severity of the problem and how it is impacting Alaskans. I am committed to continuing to push the federal government on doing more for fishery and subsistence management. But the State of Alaska also needs to do more in terms of committing long-term management planning and resources for these salmon runs.

Just before the July 4th break, we had some great progress in the Senate. First, we learned from the Air Force the plans to move the F-16s from Eielson Air Force Base are on long-term hold. Then we passed important bi-partisan legislation to prevent interest rates from doubling for more than seven million college students. The bill will now go to the President for signature. This agreement was included as part of a larger package of legislation which also reauthorizes federal transportation programs and the national flood insurance program. Alaska will get more than \$1 billion dollars over the next two years for transportation projects across the state.

This week we get back to work on building the economy and creating jobs. We will be focused on The Small Business Jobs and Tax Relief Act of 2012 which has a number of provisions to spur small business growth and hiring. We're also working to pass legislation aimed at getting American companies to stop shipping jobs overseas and to reward them for creating jobs at home.

Sincerely,



Senator Mark Begich

Useful Links



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- [Eielson AFB F-16 Squadron Transfer on Hold](#)
 - [Begich Questions IRS Threats Against Alaska Air Taxes](#)
 - [Pilot's Bill of Rights Passes Senate](#)
 - [Begich, Young Call on Federal Law Enforcement to Crack](#)

[Down on Drugs in SE Alaska](#)

Eielson AFB F-16 Squadron Transfer on Hold

Alaskans in the Interior and across the state are breathing a sigh of relief after Sen. Begich was notified by the Air Force on June 26 it will not move forward with a plan to transfer the F-16 squadron from Eielson to Anchorage, in the face of congressional opposition and pending legislation prohibiting the move. In a letter to Begich from Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz, the general says “the Air Force will not take action on the proposal to relocate the F-16s from Eielson Air Force Base until Congress has completed action on the FY 2013 authorization and appropriations bills.” The letter came after months of opposition from Alaska’s Congressional delegation, locals and leaders across the state asking the Air Force to prove up its analysis of the F-16 squadron move as a true cost-savings measure, an analysis which was never completed. In Schwartz’s letter, he says the Secretary of Defense directed the Air Force to suspend all force structure adjustments, including the relocation of the F-16s until Congress completes action on defense budget bills and other legislation that would stop the transfer.



July 6, 2012 - Sen. Begich stopped by to greet the teens working for Anchorage’s Youth Employment in Parks (YEP!) program. Each summer the YEP participants work on multiple projects in Anchorage’s parks, keeping them top notch for locals and visitors.



July 2, 2012 - Sen. Begich greets residents in Quinhagak. His trip to the village included hosting a community meeting and touring a number of local projects.

Begich Questions IRS Threats Against Alaska Air Taxis

Sen. Begich is waiting for a reply from Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner after sending him a strongly-

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1/?ui=2&ik=81b4726d59&view=pt&search=inbox&msg=1386d7710be388...>