



**Senator Gray-Jackson's Notes  
Turnagain Community Council  
December 2, 2021**

The Holidays are here, and the New Year is quickly approaching. This has been a difficult year for many, and a challenging one for our State Legislature. I'm looking forward to starting the second half of the 32<sup>nd</sup> legislative session and will continue working hard on behalf of my constituents and the citizens of Alaska.

Several of my six Police Reform Bills, introduced during the last session, have been heard in the State Affairs Committee and one has moved forward to the Judicial Committee. I'm hopeful some of them will make it to the "finish line." Another bill I introduced last session was making Juneteenth, a state paid holiday. I anticipate seeing some movement on this bill also. SB80, relating to Mental Health Education in Schools, was heard in both the Education and Health and Social Services Committees in both the Senate and House. It has one more stop – the Finance Committee – and I'm looking forward to seeing this bill enacted into law. I've also co-sponsored several other bills that I hope to see move forward – you can see these bills at [www.akleg.gov](http://www.akleg.gov).

I will also introduce a companion bill to Representative Josephson's HB17 prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.

**Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill**

On Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, The U.S. House passed an enormous infrastructure bill, totaling \$1.5 trillion. The infrastructure bill will bring billions to Alaska for roads, ports and broadband. For Alaska, this milestone reflects how important the bill will impact the 49<sup>th</sup> State. Here is what Alaska can expect:

- **\$3.5 billion in federal highway funding for Alaska over five years, to build new roads and highways, and rebuild and maintain existing ones.**
- **\$225 million goes to Alaska to address more than 140 bridges considered to be "structurally deficient."**
- **\$1 billion over five years for essential ferry service to rural Alaska communities.**
- **\$73 million to build new ferries for Alaska.**

- **More than \$180 million over 5 years will support water and wastewater projects in Alaska through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs.**
- **\$75 million for the Denali Commission to build out rural infrastructure in Alaska.**

## **Alaska Redistricting**

As you know, on November 10th, the Alaska Redistricting Board adopted a Final Proclamation that defines the [legislative districts](#) for the next 10 years.

There will be lawsuits filed regarding the issue with the Senate District in East Anchorage/Eagle River.

### **Legislative Districts:**

- District 9 E – Shaw/Holland
- District 10 E – Open/Holland
- District 11 F – Kaufman/Revak
- District 12 F – Schrage/Revak
- District 13 G – Josephson/Tuck/Gray-Jackson
- District 14 G – Open/Gray-Jackson
- District 15 H – McKay/Costello/von Imhoff
- District 16 H – Claman/Rasmussen/Costello/von Imhoff
- District 17 I – Drummond/Fields/Begich
- District 18 I – Tarr/Begich
- District 19 J – Spohnholz/Wielechowski
- District 20 J – Open/Wielechowski
- District 21 K – Snyder/Reinbold
- District 23 L – Nelson/Open

The [new map](#) pits several incumbent lawmakers against each other if they choose to run for reelection.

- Rep. Zack Fields vs Rep. Harriet Drummond in a downtown Anchorage district.
- Rep. Chris Tuck vs Rep. Andy Josephson in an Anchorage district.
- Rep. Sara Rasmussen vs Rep. Matt Claman in an Anchorage district.

The Alaska Redistricting Board worked with a goal to put 18,300 Alaskans into each legislative district.

*Always representing your interests!*



Interim: 907 269-0174      Session: 907-465-4930

Email: [Sen.Elvi.Gray-Jackson@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Elvi.Gray-Jackson@akleg.gov), [Keith.Bauguess@akleg.gov](mailto:Keith.Bauguess@akleg.gov) or [Besse.Odom@akleg.gov](mailto:Besse.Odom@akleg.gov)