

Alaska Conservation Voters 2010 Voters Guide State Senate Candidates

OUR 2010 LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR: SENATOR LESIL MCGUIRE (R)- ANCHORAGE



Senate District N

Senator Lesil McGuire has established herself as a visionary leader on issues of clean, renewable energy across the state. For her work as co-chair of the Senate Resources Committee and as co-sponsor of Senate Bill 220, which included in its passage two of Alaska Conservation Voters Legislative Priority Issues, it was our distinct honor to recognize Senator McGuire as a 2010 Alaska Conservation Voters Legislator of the Year. Senator McGuire's determination and vision on clean energy issues has long proved that conservation issues are not partisan, they are real world Alaskan issues and that there is tremendous capacity to bring Alaskans from all walks of life and political persuasions together to find cost saving solutions for the state, individuals, and businesses.

OUR 2010 LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR: SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI (D)- ANCHORAGE



Senate District J

Senator Bill Wielechowski has distinguished himself for the past four years in Juneau as a member of the Senate Bi-Partisan Majority. Senator Wielechowski is a leader on clean energy and cost saving solutions for Alaskans across the state and as a co-chair of the Senate Resources Committee, he worked closely with Alaska Conservation Voters and many other organizations to realize the passage of Senate Bill 220 which will establish issues as state priorities for years to come. It is for his work in this role and his tireless advocacy for the promotion of these issues that Alaska Conservation Voters was proud to name Senator Wielechowski one of our 2010 Legislators of the Year.



SENATOR JOE THOMAS (D)- FAIRBANKS

Senate District D

Senator Joe Thomas is a strong leader in Juneau on issues of responsible development, cost saving energy efficiencies, and the creation of sustainable, living wage jobs in a variety of sectors. As a member of the powerful Senate Finance Committee, Senator Thomas has spent the past four years reducing budgets and promoting cost savings for the state such as those found in Senate Bill 220. Senator Thomas is a valuable voice for Fairbanksans and all Alaskans, and we look forward to a continued relationship partnering on common sense, cost saving solutions.



SENATOR JOHNNY ELLIS (D)- ANCHORAGE

Senate District L

Senator Johnny Ellis of Anchorage currently serves on the Senate Finance Committee and as the Majority Leader in the State Senate, Senator Ellis was a fundamental part of the success of the Senate Bi-Partisan Majority. This coalition was instrumental in the promotion of clean energy, renewable resource development and the passage of energy efficiency legislation, all of which realize real world cost savings to Alaskans. We look forward to working closely with Senator Ellis on these issues and on transportation solutions that will cut costs and carbon usage between Anchorage and the Mat Su Valley.



JANET REISER (D)- ANCHORAGE

Senate District P

Janet Reiser, a chemical engineer by trade and entrepreneur will provide the State Senate and residents of the Anchorage hillside with leadership and real world business sense. Ms. Reiser is also a member of the Chugach Electric Utility Board of Directors and understands the need for realistic, economically viable energy solutions that will benefit all Alaskans now and in the future.

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OUR 2010 LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR: REPRESENTATIVE CHARRISSE MILLETT (R)-ANCHORAGE



House District 30

Representative Charrisse Millett was recognized as one of the Alaska Conservation Voters Legislators of the Year in 2010 for her unwavering work on energy issues as co-chair of the House Special Committee on Energy. She was a driving force behind the development and passage of the Statewide Energy Plan, a piece of legislation which will realize rate reductions to Alaskan in communities across the state for many years to come and strives to find practical solutions that utilize the powerful, renewable resources such as wind and hydro that are naturally abundant throughout Alaska. Alaska Conservation Voters looks forward to working closely with the Representative from the Anchorage Hillside on these issues in to the future.

OUR 2010 LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR: REPRESENTATIVE BRYCE EDGMON (D)- DILLINGHAM



House District 37

Representative Edgmon was recognized as a 2010 Alaska Conservation Voters Legislator of the Year for his leadership on conservation and energy issues as co-chair of the House Special Committee on Energy. Specifically, Representative Edgmon worked on the development and passage of the Statewide Energy Plan and was the driving force behind the drafting and passage of a bill allowing for energy efficiency upgrades to fishing vessels which protects clean water, healthy fish, and bolsters the economy in Western Alaska. Representative Edgmon, who's Bristol Bay district encompasses both Dillingham and the site of the proposed Pebble Mine, has taken a strong position opposing the proposed mine, as it would pose long term risks to the health and sustainability of fish and clean water in his district.



REPRESENTATIVE PEGGY WILSON (R)- WRANGELL

House District 2

Representative Wilson is a strong advocate for many pro-conservation issues, particularly those pertaining to clean water, healthy fisheries, and promoting oceanic transportation to connect Alaskans while protecting our aquatic resources. Representative Wilson always has an open ear for discussions of pro-conservation issues and is a strong advocate of energy efficiencies across the state.



REPRESENTATIVE BETH KERTTULA (D)- JUNEAU

House District 3

Representative Kerttula, House Minority Leader for the past four years, is a tireless advocate for pro-conservation issues such as clean water, protections from cruise ship pollutants, and cost saving energy efficiencies. An attorney by trade who has committed her career to state service, Kerttula is one of a select few second generation legislators to serve in the State Capitol. She will continue to be a leader on energy and clean water issues and we look forward to maintaining our strong relationship with her and her staff.



REPRESENTATIVE WOODIE SALMON (D)- YUKON/INTERIOR

House District 6

The representative from Chalkyitsik, Alaska whose rural Yukon district is larger than many states combined, recognizes the critical need for cost saving energy efficiencies and the real world consequences of untenable energy costs on the rural way of life. Representative Salmon is committed to bringing his unique perspective and the needs of his constituents to the legislature and working hard to find solutions that realize savings for both rural and urban Alaskans. This includes improving efficiencies for all forms of energy, including diesel to reduce diesel usage in areas where renewable alternatives are not currently possible. Representative Salmon provides a strong and valuable voice on these issues and we look forward to hearing more from him and partnering with him on energy solutions in the

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BOB MILLER (D)- FAIRBANKS

House District 7

Bob Miller, a news reporter and longtime Fairbanksan is challenging Representative Mike Kelly for the House District 7 seat. Mr. Miller who is well versed in energy issues, understands the critical need for cost reducing energy efficiency measures in Fairbanks and across Alaska and is prepared to represent the best interests of his constituents in Juneau. A victory for Mr. Miller would remove an anti-conservation legislator who has been consistently hostile to legislation that would support responsible development and energy savings for all Alaskans.



REPRESENTATIVE DAVE GUTTENBERG (D)- FAIRBANKS

House District 8

Representative David Guttenberg serves as Minority Whip in the House Democratic Caucus. He has consistently worked with Alaska Conservation Voters to find common ground around issues of energy efficiency and responsible development and in 2010 worked hard on the passage of energy efficiency legislation that led to cost savings for Fairbanksans and Alaskans across the state.



REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT KAWASAKI (D)- FAIRBANKS

House District 9

Representative Scott Kawasaki is a young leader in the legislature from Fairbanks who brings enthusiasm and realism to his position. He is an ardent supporter of energy efficiency legislation and realizes the real world savings that these efficiencies can lend to both the state and individuals. Additionally, Representative Kawasaki recognizes the threats posed to Alaskans from climate change and is committed to setting the state on a course of pro-active solution finding to address this issue in the decades to come.



BERT COTTLE (D)- VALDEZ/GLENALLEN/COPPER CENTER

House District 13

Bert Cottle is the clear choice to represent the so called 'pipeline district' that runs from south of Fairbanks, through Glenallen, Copper Center, and Valdez. The mayor of Valdez, Mr. Cottle is experienced with government and the unique needs of his far flung district. As a leader in a community that is heavily influenced by oil resources, Mr. Cottle also understands the need to look into the future towards the generation of jobs and power through the development of renewable resources. To learn more about Bert Cottle's campaign, visit his website here.



MARTIN LINDEKE (D)- GOVERNMENT HILL/EAGLE RIVER

House District 18

Martin Lindeke is running for the seat vacated by the retirement of Nanch Dahlstrom. Retired from the military and a building inspector by profession, Mr. Lindeke is a hard working member of his community and a candidate who understands the needs and concerns of his district as well as issues that affect Alaskans across the state. Mr. Lindeke is committed to finding efficient, clean energy solutions to the high price of power and heat as well as protecting clean water and the protection of naturally renewable resources such as fish in Bristol Bay.

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REPRESENTATIVE MAX GRUENBERG (D)- RUSSIAN JACK MOUNTAIN VIEW

House District 20

Alaska Conservation Voters is pleased to endorse incumbent Representative Max Gruenberg in his 2010 race for the state house representing Russian Jack and Mountain View neighborhoods in Anchorage. Representative Gruenberg has a history of being deeply committed to many conservation issues, particularly in terms of energy efficiency legislation in the 2010 legislative session.



BARBARA NORTON (D)- ANCHORAGE

House District 21

Like Alaska Conservation Voters, Barbara Norton supports research and development into renewable energy sources such as wind, geothermal, and tidal power. She will be a diligent advocate for the residents of her East Anchorage district and bring to Juneau her skills and talents as both a nurse and small business owner.



REPRESENTATIVE SHARON CISSNA (D)-ANCHORAGE

House District 22

Representative Cissna has been a conservation champion throughout her legislative career. As the representative from the Anchorage U-Med district which encompasses three hospitals and both of Anchorage's growing universities, Rep. Cissna is a strong conservationist who puts the health of Alaska's people, environment, and economy first and foremost in her legislative agenda.



REPRESENTATIVE LES GARA (D)- ANCHORAGE

House District 23

Representative Gara is a consistent advocate for pro-conservation issues in the legislature and firmly supported the energy efficiency legislation passed in 2010. The representative from downtown Anchorage and member of the House Finance committee has worked with Alaska Conservation Voters to strengthen Alaska's economy, environment, and educational system. In 2010 Representative Gara fought to keep funding for energy efficiency upgrades for Alaska's schools in the budget, a measure which saves school districts money and teaches the value of conservation to children across the state.



REPRESENTATIVE BERTA GARDNER (D)-ANCHORAGE

House District 24

Representative Berta Gardner of mid-town Anchorage is a committed advocate for conservation and wildlife issues and recognizes the critical importance of reducing Alaskan's dependence upon fuels by implementing use of naturally abundant renewable resources and energy efficiencies. As a member of the Labor and Commerce Committee and a small business owner, Representative Gardner recognizes the value of green jobs for Alaskan workers. We look forward to working closely with Representative Gardner on these issues.

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REPRESENTATIVE LINDSEY HOLMES (D)- ANCHORAGE

House District 26

Representative Lindsey Holmes is a strong member of the legislature who brings her knowledge and enthusiasm for issues including conservation and energy efficiencies to the legislature. From West Anchorage, she is a member of the House Committee on Fisheries and is one of the only licensed attorneys with a seat on the House Judiciary Committee.



REPRESENTATIVE BOB BUCH (D)- ANCHORAGE

House District 27

Representative Buch is running for his third term to represent Southwest Anchorage in the legislature. Representative Buch has been a supporter both of jobs and energy efficiencies as a member of the House Labor and Commerce Committee. He recognizes the importance of cost saving efficiencies for home owners and the value of green jobs for our economy.



REPRESENTATIVE PAUL SEATON (R)- HOMER

House District 35

Representative Paul Seaton has worked hard throughout his legislative career to pass legislation protecting Alaska's water and fisheries from pollution and promoting renewable sources of energy that lower Alaska's carbon footprint. He is a supporter of the proposed Chackahamna Hydro Power generation facility and has for the past four years sponsored legislation to increase the State's revenue from mining taxes which is currently woefully low. Representative Seaton takes a statewide view on local solutions to the high cost of energy and recognizes that while tidal may be the best solution in some areas, biomass fuel generation will be better in others.