

AKPIRG garners more support for spending lid

The fifth week of challenge by the Alaska Public Interest Research Group to Alaska legislative candidates to voluntarily limit their campaign spending has received further support from three more candidates, according to AKPIRG Executive Director Jeff Bohman.

The challenge late in the primary campaigns, suggests limits of \$18,000 and \$27,000 for House and Senate races, respectively.

"Thirty-six candidates have now responded," said Bohman, "and only four have not expressed agreement that campaigns are too expensive. Yet even they have said they'll spend less than the limits suggested."

AKPIRG President John Suddock expressed pleasure at getting this sort of response from the busy candidates.

At the same time, AKPIRG officials expressed deep disappointment at the lack of response from so many other candidates.

"This will continue to be an obstacle to equitable and truly representative legislative performance unless candidates, and the legislators they become, take clear measures to eliminate the undue influence of the economically powerful. And only their constituents can hold the candidates accountable for their position," Bohman said.