

# *Senator blasts 'kiddie tax'*

Sen. Frank Murkowski, in an effort to protect low-income children from the clutches of the Internal Revenue Service, testified against "kiddie taxes" before the Senate Finance Committee recently.

"We really don't want to see our young Alaskans studying IRS regulations in the first grade," Murkowski told the committee.

The new "kiddie tax" says that

children under 14 must file a tax return if someone else claims them as a dependent. It also requires them to pay taxes on unearned income of more than \$500.

Last year more than 100,000 children received a dividend over \$500, and dividend checks this year will be around \$700. This means children, under current tax laws, will have to pay about \$22 in taxes.