

Merculieff endorses Gruening

ST PAUL IS.—Calling Clark Gruening the “best possible choice,” the chairman of the board of the Aleut Corporation has endorsed Gruening’s candidacy for the United States Senate.

Larry Merculieff, who is also president of the St. Paul village corporation and a member of the board of directors of the Alaska Native Foundation, announced the endorsement on Tuesday.

“I believe that Clark Gruening is our best possible choice for the U.S. Senate,” Merculieff said in a statement from St. Paul. “Clark Gruening is honest, intelligent, imaginative and has experience. With these qualifications, with his understanding of Alaska and his commitment to help solve growing problems facing Alaska natives, this is a candidate who will do us more good
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Gruening

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than all the other candidates combined.

"For example, I believe that Clark Gruening understands our need and desire for self-determination; the right to maintain and protect native Alaskans' lifestyles and our unique cultures; the need for local control; the problems of foreign control of our fisheries; the need to protect Alaska native lands as a base for native cultures, the need to understand how development like oil and gas affect Alaska natives and Alaska before development takes place, not after.

"All other candidates have aligned themselves to special interests that are not necessarily in the best interests of Alaska. The incumbent, Mike Gravel, is more inclined to the national lime-light than he is to the concerns of Alaska. Clark Gruening, if elected, will be one strong person for Alaska in Washington."