

# Cowper picks firms for ANWR

Gov. Steve Cowper recently announced two firms will promote the state's effort to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil development.

The firms have each been awarded contracts worth an amount not to exceed \$108,000 a year and will complement the work of state officials in Washington, D.C.

"We want to get the word out that ANWR can and should be developed in an orderly way," Cowper said. Evans/Kraft Bean has been chosen

to coordinate the state's media and grassroots campaign. The agency will work in a partnership with Burson-Marsteller, headquartered in Washington, D.C.

The law firm of O'Connor & Hannan will head up the state's ANWR lobbying effort. The firm has been involved in a number of important congressional issues and has Alaska experience as well.

Selection of the two firms occurred following a review by an evaluation team in the Washington, D.C., office

headed by John W. Katz. The evaluation panel has also chosen the law firm of Preston, Thorgrimson, Ellis and Holman to provide general representation before Congress on Alaska issues. The firm has offices in Anchorage, Seattle and Washington, D.C.

Also, Katz has hired State Assistant Attorney General Kay Gouwens to replace Martha A. Fox, who has returned to Alaska. Gouwens will work on natural resources, telecommunications, Indian Law and several other issues.