

Sen. Willie Hensley Requests UA to Help Fund Imuruk Project

State Sen. Willie Hensley has requested University of Alaska fund the Imuruk Basin Project being undertaken by Laurel Bland to preserve the history of that Arctic region.

The study was originally to be funded in the Alaska Methodist University appropriation but a line item directing this was inadvertently left out of the Legislative budget.

In a letter to Dr. William Wood, president of U of A, dated June 26, Hensley wrote: "You will recall during the Board of Regents meeting I made a point that the University should engage in research activities that insure to benefit of Alaskans and I felt that the University had virtually ignored the study of subjects in its own back yard that needed serious research.

"I feel that the Imuruk Basin Project has substantial support in the Eskimo community and among those who realize how insufficient our knowledge as of Eskimo history and prehistory.

"It seems to me that there should be adequate funds in the

University budget to fund the

project. When the Senate Finance Committee agreed to request the \$40,000, the committee had just provided added funds for cash flow purposes from which the \$40,000 is to be

obtained.

"In as much as the free conference committee increased your budget substantially, there is no question that there is money in your budget for this project."