Bill funds research

Washington, D.C. — Several provisions that would benefit Alaskans are included in the State, Justice and Commerce Appropriations bill that was sent to the president for his signature last week according to Senator Ted Stevens.

One provision allocates \$650,-000 for continued research on bowhead whales.

One amendment introduced by Stevens to the bill provides \$700,000 to improve inspection of fisheries products. The funds would be used to help defray inspection costs, and to provide adequate and appropriate training for inspectors.

Another amendment cosponsored by Stevens, provides \$250,000 requested by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to develop a prototype "fish washing" machine . . . a device which can remove bacteria from fresh fish, increasing the product shelf life 13-17 days.

Other items of interest to Alaskans include:

- * \$21 million for Coastal Zone Management programs, nationwide.
- * \$160 million for renovation of the FCC monitoring station in Anchorage.