

What others say...

Tribal letter to Sheffield

To Gov. Sheffield:

I'm a Council Member of the Traditional Tribal Council of Atmautluak, whose role is to administer Tribal authority under policies set by the Elders of Atmautluak that regulate individual Tribal members into a civilized cooperative unit through tribal government which has been in existence since before western recorded history.

Since the "State" of Alaska has wandered into the thicket of Sovereign Jurisdiction and is becoming more entangled every day and in desperation

may damage itself or those trying to help and since the political damage could soon become irreparable, I would like to suggest to you as Governor and Chief Executive of the State that you take direct charge and dismiss the confusion and interference being created by the Department of Community and Regional Affairs and suspend any action or directives of the Boundary Commission until the problem can be resolved by the Sovereign Parties involed and the full meaning of Tribal Consent can be determined to the benefit of all directly concerned.

Alexie Pavilla Jr.

Choice sought for judges

To the editor:

Recently a judge came up for judicial retention. In this rare case (strong example of need for choice) others were allowed to apply for that judgeship. The incumbent judge applied for retention and a goodly number of others also applied for his job. Fourteen years earlier that incumbent judge was the best qualified applicant. However, after adding 14 years experience on the job to his strating best qualified stance, he was still deemed least qualified of the host of amateur applicants for his position.

That 14 years' judicial experience produced a least qualified candidate shows that experience is not a quality worthy of consideration in relation to judicial office.

That 14 years in office could change a most qualified judicial candidate into a least qualified judicial officer could indicate that tenure (without competition) tends to breed arrogance, low regard for our laws, lack of consideration for others, excessive conflict of interests, intoxication with

power and such other qualities that even the judicial council may find sufficiently distasteful to rate judges as least qualified.

Eighteen judges are open for the retention vote in the 1986 general elections. The Judicial Council has determined that all 18 incumbent judges are qualified but note the one *big difference*. No one else was allowed to apply for thier jobs as in the opening mentioned case, therefore, the incumbent judges could be the least qualified or the most qualified. Open elecftion of judicial officers would apply competition, the American way, to get us the best in office.

Should we have allowed others to seek Governor Sheffield's job?

Give the people open choice of judicial officers with limited terms of office. If the people don't choose the best, at least they will choose what they want and the ones chosen will have incentive to be the best, to retain their office.

Leonard E. Moffitt

'Pie in the sky'

To the editor:

How about meat on the table instead of pie in the sky. With Alaskans losing jobs and houses, with the private business sector virtually shut down by Federal, State, and local regulations, with burdensome ordinanaces telling us when and where we cannot fish, take a leak and put up signs, will our flaky government officials next require permits so we can blow our noses too?

Our socialist-minded State and Federal bureaucrats have passed bogus bills on us for years: they will take care of us; they will lock up the land; they will raise the sources and costs of our electric power; they will sell off our timber, fish; and natural gas to Asian and Outside big interests in the 'public interest!' And with our own billions the State of Alaska itself raided from the North Slope oil patch, our Juneau-based legislators have forged a State-runned planned economy supposedly to spread that wealth equitably among all Alaskans. Yet we are miserable wards of a State that deprives its own individual citizens of equal in-state economic enterprise opportunities in fisheries, logging, land development, and oil recovery that can

make them independent of porkbarrel projects like Susitna, restrictive oil lease sales open only to big corporations (but not wildcat drillers) and paltry grants and longevity bonuses.

With State revenues falling off, the same bureaucrats who got themselves into the business of caring for our needs now let us down: they can't feed us with budget shortfalls! Yet here they are, "protecting" us from feeding ourselves! Why can't they help us? Because their planned economy built on State enterprises no longer works. It hasn't workek in Kiev, and it's not working in Alaska. Because it's not working, hordes of Alaksans are forced to move out; there's no barbed wire and walls to keep them in.

Enough of dependance and socialist welfare on the Last Frontier! Get us off this Indian Reservation mentality of people dependent on their Great White Fathers in Juneau and Washington. Get rid of coprolitic regulations and ordiances that strait-jacket in-state business activity; slap them on Outside interests instead so the Alaskan people can be econoimically independent.

Donald S. Mulder