

Know Your Proxy—

Stockholders

By ALEX SHADURA

Stockholders of the various village and regional Native corporations are cautioned before they sign a proxy.

Recently there have been a number of various proxy forms sent through the mail to stockholders of the village and regional corporations.

Together with a proxy form mailed to the stockholder is an accompanying letter which stipulates that unless 5% of the stockholders, including those which are proxy holders, are not present at the stockholder's meeting, then the meeting cannot be held because of the lack of a quorum.

This part of the statement in the accompanying letter is correct but it also insinuates that the lack of a quorum would jeopardize the distribution of money from that appropriated by Congress for lands lost.

This last statement borders on coercion and proxies obtained in this manner could be challenged in the court or at the stockholders meeting.

The last board meeting of Cook Inlet Region, Inc. adopted a resolution authorizing the management to disburse the funds entitled to the stockholders.

The Cook Inlet Region, Inc. management has been authorized by the CIRI Board to mail out a letter explaining what is a proxy, when and how it should be used, and the legal limits of a proxy.

It is also sending out a proxy form in blank to each stockholder so that in the event the stockholder cannot attend the stockholders' meeting a duly appointed agent holding the wishes of the stockholder.

A proxy is a power of attorney, giving the privilege to the stockholder's proxy, the right to vote the wishes of the stockholder. Know to whom you are giving your proxy. The proxy holder will be voting your rights in your place.

If you cannot attend the stockholders' meeting in person, assign your proxy to someone who has been working in your behalf, some one who you know or is recommended by a friend that you know.

There will be many requests for your proxy via letter, phone and verbally. Not all people soliciting proxies are concerned

about your behalf, some are doing so to attain power which may be harmful towards you.

Remember that the proxy that has the last date is the one that counts. If you have already signed one of the proxies mailed to you, due to a lack of knowledge, you may correct this mistake.

The Cook Inlet Region, Inc., 519 C Street, Anchorage, 99510, will be sending out a blank form, otherwise call them at 274-7575 and ask them to send you out a Blank Proxy form.

Your future may be at stake in how you delegate your stockholder's right and whom you select as a director on your regional or village boards.