Position Paper—

Carr Stresses Satellite Program

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Larry Carr called for a modern satellite communications system for Alaska in a position

paper released today.

"I am proposing a 20th century means of communications for all Alaskans through use of a satellite program," Carr said. "There are some Alaskans who have never held a phone in their hands. Others are tired of getting busy signals on their phones."

"Thousands of Alaskan youngsters are getting second-rate educations because they live in rural

areas," he continued.

The Anchorage businessman noted that "Thousands of dollars are lost each day by Alaskan businessmen because of inadequate telephone and telegraph systems in the state and with the rest of the world."

Carr made his statement from Kivalina in Northwest Alaska. The community of Kivalina depends on land radio for communications with the rest of the world, for only a few hours a week.

Carr said a communications satellite system used properly

could detect pipeline leaks, forest fires and floods, and even provide accurate and instant information on fish runs.

"A modern satellite system could provide advantages for every single Alaskan," Carr noted, "from live television transmissions to diagnosing illnesses by doctors in other parts of the nation.