

## ***Senator Stevens and Late Filers***

WASHINGTON — Sen. Ted Stevens has introduced a bill to aid Alaska Natives who missed the March 30, 1973 enrollment deadline for land claims benefits.

Stevens' bill would authorize the Interior Department to accept enrollment applications filed prior to June 30 of this year.

"In my opinion it is only fair and equitable to insure that all Alaska Natives share in the bene-

fits of the land claims settlement regardless of a failure to meet a technical deadline imposed on submission of applications," the senator said.

His bill would apply only to those Natives who would have otherwise been eligible under the land claims act, but simply missed the enrollment deadline.

About 1,000 Alaska Natives could be affected by the bill, Stevens said.