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# Absentees Give Anderson Victory

*(Editor's Note: The Tundra Times recently announced with a number of publications the defeat of Democratic State Representative Nels Anderson, Jr. of Dillingham. The report was erroneous and we apologize for the error. During tabulation of absentee ballots, Anderson was victorious over challenger Joe McGill.)*

DILLINGHAM—Rep. Nels Anderson, Jr. (D-Dillingham) has emerged victorious from his write-in campaign to retain his seat in the Alaska Legislature over challenger Joe McGill. Anderson, defeated in the primary election by the challenger, mounted an intensive and energetic write-in campaign

following the primary loss. Final, through unofficial results, place Anderson the winner by 32 votes.

Although the respected Native legislator appeared to have lost his seat to McGill during the general election, tabulation of absentee ballots made him the winner by a small margin.

"I am really happy with the final outcome," Anderson told the Tundra Times in a telephone interview. "It feels good to be in the lead in the final count," he added.

The aggressive, highly-regarded chairman of the House Resources Committee would not directly comment on reports that he is a top contender for

the position of Speaker. He noted, "It looks positive that the bush will have something to say about who may be in leadership positions in the new legislature."

Anderson, his wife Dorothy who is editor of the Bristol Bay By-Lines, and their three children will return to Juneau in mid December.

Anderson, considered by manner to be the leader of rural Alaska membership in Juneau, met recently in Anchorage with other legislatures from the "bush caucus" (as the rural Alaska membership is often referenced) chose not to run for re-election, Native candidates William Akers (R-Emmonak) and Leo Shaeffer,



Jr. (D-Kotzebue) won seats to keep the Native membership in the legislature intact. "We are pleased with the way the membership from the rural areas has developed," Anderson said.