

Cowper appoints Salo to fill seat vacated in House

JUNEAU — Gov. Steve Cowper late last month appointed Kenai educator Judy Salo to the state House seat vacated by the resignation of C.E. "Swack" Swackhammer.

Salo, 42, will occupy the seat until the winner of the November general election is sworn into office in January. Swackhammer resigned June 1 to take the job of city manager of Homer.

Salo, a 21-year resident of the Kenai Peninsula, has been a teacher there since 1974 except for the two years she served as president of the National Education Association-Alaska, the state's largest teacher organization in the state. She is the immediate past president of NEA-Alaska.

She has been active in local Democratic politics for years and was chairperson of the House District Five Democrats in 1985-86 when Kenai hosted the state Democratic Convention. She also has been a delegate to several state party conventions and was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention in 1988.