

\$7.9 million in overdue ANILCA funds due Native corporations

President Ronald Reagan has requested the Senate Appropriations Committee to include \$7.9 million for Alaska Native regional and village corporations. The money which has been owed for 14 years comes from the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act under Section 1411.

According to Sen. Frank Murkowski Section 1411 requires

that all unescrowed monies owed to corporations be identified and paid back with interest. The Bureau of Land Management audited their records and comprised a report listing the receipts for the revenues.

Murkowski said, "This was not an easy task, as most of the receipts were 10 to 14 years old. This was a serious auditing job, not a simple accounting process

because those receipts that are older than 10 years are put in storage and are not readily accessible."

While \$7.9 million has been identified as money that is owed to Native corporations, another \$10 million is being contested along with the amount of interest money owed. The interest alone is estimated to be \$7 million according to Murkowski.