

RurAL CAP Asks BIA—

More Realty Personnel

The executive committee of RurAL CAP in Alaska has sent a resolution to the Bureau of Indian Affairs demanding they provide additional Realty Officers to speed processing of Native Land Allotment claims.

The resolution states that the Native Allotment Act of 1906 will probably be repealed in the Native Land Claims Bill. Thousands of Native people are now filing applications for land under this Act, causing a major backlog within BIA offices due to insufficient personnel.

"Resolved, that the Executive Committee of RurAL CAP demand that the Bureau of Indian Affairs become responsive to the needs of the Alaska Natives by providing additional Realty

Officers to process the vastly increased load of Native land Allotments which are now and will continue to be backlogged in the Bureau of Indian Affairs Alaska Realty Offices".

The Native Allotment Act is one means by which Native people can obtain individual title to lands they traditionally use and occupy.

The resolution was unanimously passed December 17 by the RurAL CAP executive committee, according to RurAL CAP executive director Byron Mallott.

Copies were forwarded to State and federal officials, senators and representatives, Native association leaders and BIA officers.