

Land Claims Urgent

State Senator Nick Begich reported from Washington, D.C. that the powerful Chairman of the House Interior Committee, Wayne Aspinall of Colorado, "understands the urgency of solving the Alaska Native Land Claims."

Begich, Democratic candidate for Alaska's lone House Seat, is in the nation's capital conferring with government leaders.

Begich said Aspinall, who held

Committee hearings on the land claims issue in Alaska last year, told him there must be a speedy resolution to the matter.

The Senate passed a land claims bill two weeks ago and the matter is now in the House of Representatives.

Senator Begich has previously called for a swift and generous settlement of the land issue both for the benefit of native non-native Alaskans alike.