

# Senator Sackett Comments on Proposals

State Senator John Sackett (R-Ruby) responded to some of the ideas and statements coming out of Juneau recently. In a telephone interview with the Tundra Times, Sackett did say the Senate was working on a dividend program but that all depends on what the U.S. Supreme Court decides on the pending dividend case.

This is a different approach to what House Representatives Brian Rogers (D-Fairbanks) and Terry Gardiner (D-Ketchikan) have proposed, one time individual payments ranging from \$350 to \$750 to every person, child and adult regardless of the Supreme Court decision. (Minors were excluded in the contested permanent fund dividend program.)

Sackett also commented on Senator Bill Ray's proposal of a state operated airline. Will it get off the ground? "The suggestion of one is to provide for better airline service mainly to Juneau and the Southeast." Though Ray's suggestion has drawn fire from mainly Fairbanks and Anchorage constituents, the state's major existing airlines have not vocalized too much concern or criticism but have adopted a wait and see attitude.

Rep. Pappy Moss (D-Delta Junction) has provoked anger among many Alaskans with the proposal that the State loan the ailing Chrysler Corporation \$400 million. Sackett bemusedly said, "No comment." Moss had unsuccessfully challenged Sackett's Senate seat in the past, had criticized the Senator's record and even his residency in the district. But Moss's proposal has garnered almost no support and many have criticized him because they are overwhelmingly in favor of investing in Alaska.

Those wishing to get in touch with Sackett this session may do so at 907-465-3866 or 465-3895 or by writing Pouch V, Juneau, Ak. 99801.