# BILL SHEFFIELD

# A Man For Rural Alaska

## On Subsistence:

Bill Sheffield is opposing the initiative to repeal the state subsistence law, because he believes that people who live on — and off — the land deserve special preference. But Bill Sheffield knows that this issue must be resolved so that, even if the initiative is defeated, the conflict doesn't arise again. Bill Sheffield promises to protect the subsistence activities of those who most need fish and game resources and he will resolve the conflict once and for all.

#### On Schools:

Bill Sheffield believes that Alaska's youth are our most valuable natural resource. That resource must be nurtured and cultivated to fulfill its greatest potential. To Bill Sheffield, that means high-quality education. Good schools and capable teachers are one of the best investments we can make in our future.

# On Housing:

Rural Alaska is afflicted with a chronic housing shortage. Bill Sheffield believes that part of the problem lies with deficiencies in the state home loan program. He has drafted a housing blueprint that will give prospective homeowners and renters more stability and security. Bill Sheffield has a business-like approach to home loans that will allow more Alaskans to buy homes and ease the rental crunch.



# On Alcohol & Drugs

Bill Sheffield knows there are no simple answers to complex problems that have economic and social roots. Some candidates would merely toss such troubled people in jail. Bill Sheffield says that approach is archaic and inhumane. Offenders must be disciplined, but where alcohol or drugs are part of the problem, the state must not let up on efforts to find effective solutions to drug and alcohol abuse. Bill Sheffield supports funding of local programs that address those problems and he will strongly encourage new efforts to prevent and cure substance abuse.

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# On Jobs & Local Hire:

Bill Sheffield will implement policies that foster jobs in the private sector and encourage local hire. He also has a seven-point plan for assistance to small businesses; businesses which provide substantial employment opportunities in rural Alaska. Bill Sheffield knows that you can't produce jobs out of thin air. What he will do is take action to bring in new industries and create an inviting climate for small, local businesses to get off the ground and thrive.

# On Coastal Development:

Bill Sheffield recognizes the importance of local input and protection of life-sustaining resources, in coastal development decisions. Bill Sheffield is committed to orchestrating coastal development in harmony with the needs and livelihoods of coastal residents.

## On Medical Services:

Quality medical care is essential in rural Alaska. Bill Sheffield wants to be certain that federal cutbacks do not leave rural Alaskans without access to medical services.

## On Energy:

The state is currently subsidizing energy in rural areas through several programs. Bill Sheffield believes that is appropriate, but only as an interim measure. He wants to see development of more efficient forms of energy appropriate for local technology. Bill Sheffield will push for development of alternative energy sources that will make rural Alaskans less dependent on the state for energy assistance.

# On Transportation:

While other candidates are pushing for boondoggle ways of spending Alaska's mineral wealth, Bill Sheffield believes that the state has an obligation to meet basic capital needs. In rural Alaska, transportation — roads, docks, harbors — is vital to the sustenance and growth of rural economies. Transportation facilities are basic needs which must be met before the state even thinks about addressing the "wants."



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