

October 19, 2011

Attention: Commission Members
Local Boundary Commission
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1770
Anchorage, AK 99501-3510
Email: LBC@alaska.gov



Re: Petersburg Borough Application

This letter is written to encourage the LBC to grant the City of Petersburg the boundaries as proposed in Petersburg's borough application. Many Petersburg residents have worked long to complete the proposed borough application and gather the required signatures.

I am in favor of Petersburg's Borough as proposed for the following reasons:

- Petersburg really needs the school funding a borough formation would bring. Funding for Petersburg Schools is a constant struggle.
- There are many people residing outside of the Petersburg City limits and within Petersburg's proposed borough that take full advantage of our schools, harbors, swimming pool, libraries, fire department/ EMTs, and other infrastructure, yet pay no taxes to support these services.
- Petersburg would have better control over environmental issues within the borough. This would be a good thing especially for our fisheries, tourism and subsistence which are all very important to the local economy and/or way of life.
- The proposed borough boundaries would bring us better representation for our district.
- Most Petersburg families have subsistence lifestyles and traditionally use the entire borough area for that purpose.
- The Petersburg fishing fleet has traditionally fished the proposed borough waters (Steven's Pass, Frederick Sound, etc.) since the first Norwegian fisherman arrived here in the 1800s.

Juneau's recent attempt to annex part of Petersburg's proposed Borough should not be allowed to proceed. Juneau has already selected borough boundaries and this annexation attempt seems un-neighborly and power grabbing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah Hofstad".

Sarah Hofstad
278 Mitkof Highway
P.O. Box 154
Petersburg, AK 99833