

Dean Westlake—House District 40—Democrat

Residence Address:

821 Lake Street
Kotzebue

Mailing Address:

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E-Mail:

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Web Site:

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Age:

56

Place of Birth:

Noorvik, AK

Children's Names:

Dennis, Autumn-Rose, Tallon

Occupation:

Director of Village Economic Development, NANA Corporation

Length of Residency in Alaska:

Entire Life

Alaskan Communities Lived in:

Noorvik, Kiana, Red Dog, Kotzebue, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Galena (1960-2016)

Education:

Kiana and Noorvik public schools followed by Sheldon Jackson, the Municipal Police Academy and numerous FBI and Law enforcement training courses.

Political and Government Positions:

Northwest Arctic Borough Assemblyman.

Business and Professional Positions:

Kotzebue City Planner, Cook Inlet Tribal Council; Family Assessment Division, Galena Office of Children's Services.

Service Organization(s) Membership:

Kotzebue Boys and Girls Club (Board Member), Kotzebue Policeman's Association (Founder). Galena Village Tribal Council.

Special Interests:

I love to hunt, canoe, and read. I also enjoy cooking, spending time outside and rooting for our Kotzebue High Huskies basketball team.

Statement:

Hi, my name is Dean Westlake. My family and I hail from the Kobuk River Valley.

I'm running for State House because now more than ever, we need a representative to fight for our Arctic communities.

In the midst of the current fiscal crisis, the State is trying to balance the budget on the backs of rural Alaskans. Oil and mining tax revenues make up 90% of the money in our state bank account. That revenue comes directly from House District 40: from Red Dog Mine and the oil fields at Prudhoe and Kuparak. However, the State Legislature currently finds it all too easy to overlook our needs and make rural Alaskans take the brunt of the fiscal crisis.

The State is always able to find the money to take resources out of our community. But now the legislature is threatening to cut revenue sharing for rural communities, cut funding for rural schools, cut support for public radio, and reduce investments in rural infrastructure.

I am running so I can return the voice of the Arctic to the State House. We can work together to make sure our needs are heard and that our resources are used to address those needs.

There is so much opportunity in the Arctic right now. Strong, new leadership can bring the benefits of that development back to our communities, our families, and our children, and stop our legislature from making rural Alaska pay the check for a fiscal crisis that we did not create.



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