

Position Sought: House District 17 Representative

Name and Political Affiliation: William Z. "Zack" Fields, Registered Democrat

Residence Address: 1320 K St
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Biographical Information

Age: 40

Place of Birth: Charlottesville, VA

Spouse's Name: Khalial

Children's Names: Zara, Simone

Occupation: Legislator, Union Organizer

Length of Residency in Alaska: 12 years

Alaskan Communities Lived in:
Anchorage, 2012-present

Education:
Bachelor's degree with major in economics and minor in history

Political and Government Positions:
Policy aide in local, state, and federal levels, including for member of Congress and a former Alaska Labor Commissioner, former member of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee to AMATS.

Business and Professional Positions:
Outdoor writer

Service Organization(s) Membership:
Anchorage Youth Court, Anchorage NAACP, Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Alaska Trails, Singletrack Advocates, Bike Anchorage, Chugach Mountain Bike Riders, Artic Valley Ski Club

Special Interests:
Backcountry skiing, whitewater paddling, wilderness exploration

Other (Biographical Information):
My family lives in South Addition. Our older daughter Zara is in first grade, and her sister Simone will enter kindergarten next year.

Position Statement

To reverse years of outmigration and economic stagnation, Alaska needs great public schools, a strong university system, and high-quality public services from snow plowing to fully staffed police departments. We also need to deploy affordable renewable energy generation and maximize Cook Inlet gas production to avoid massive price increases that would result from imported LNG. If we invest in ourselves--from our human capital to local energy--Alaska will thrive.

We cannot afford to continue squandering money on excessively large Permanent Fund Dividends when those expenditures come at the expense of public schools, basic public services, and investment in affordable energy. This last year, we wasted \$350 million on larger-than-average dividends instead of restoring funding for schools or investing in affordable energy. The Constitutional purpose of the Permanent Fund as established by voters in 1976 was to fund government operations, and we need to return to that core purpose of the Fund.

Last year, we restored half of school funding that had been cut over the last decade. We need to continue rebuilding our public school system so class sizes are small enough for students to excel. We also need to pass pension reform, because our worst-in-the-nation retirement for police, firefighters, and teachers is wasting tens of millions annually on turnover costs while devastating our schools and public safety departments with unacceptable vacancy rates. Finally, we must invest in Alaska clean energy generation to keep prices low so all sectors of our economy can prosper.

Current Photo



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