Bill Johnson – House District 9 Representative – Democratic Nominee

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Other:
I was born in Fairbanks in 1952 and grew up in Delta, where I still live some 27 miles out of town. Shellie and I have been married for 35 years. We have three wonderful children and two grandchildren. After I graduated from Delta High School I went to the University of Alaska and to the Washington State University where I earned a PhD in History. To support myself I have cut firewood, worked construction, fought wildfire, served as a union business agent, and taught courses for UAF. I was retired until I decided to run for office. Alaska is in big trouble. I'm asking for your vote to help bring some balance to the legislature. I will consider all points of view, always be honest with Alaskans and fellow legislators, and will work hard to enact responsible policies for District 9 and all Alaskans, not just a few.

Position Statement:
Alaska is no longer the land of opportunity I remember.

Since 2016 our population has decreased every year and simply put, we are broke. We can't plow our roads, we can't fund our schools, we can't regulate polluters, we can't maintain our parks, and we can't run a ferry system. If you lost your income you would do three things. First, you would cut spending, then, you would turn to your savings account, and you would go out and find another income source. The state must do the same. Over the years we have cut to the bone and scraped it clean. We can no longer afford the things we need. No more cuts. Our savings account, the Permanent Fund, was created for a “rainy day.” It is raining hard.
We need to have serious discussion about if and how to use that money. But first we need to increase the revenue we receive from oil corporations. We need to raise more money and the simplest, most direct way is to restore our historic tax revenue from oil companies and stop the tax breaks. Article 1 of the State Constitution is clear – government is “instituted solely for the good of the people as a whole.” I believe that.

We need good people in Juneau who will make hard, rational, and balanced decisions to benefit all Alaskans. I will put partisan ideology aside and work with all my fellow legislators to build a state where our grandchildren can grow and prosper.