

Mark Begich for U.S. Senate

September 18, 2008

Rick Solie, Chairman
Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce
100 Cushman Street, Suite 501
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Faxed and Mailed September 18, 2008

Dear Rick:

I am writing to ask the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce to reconsider its decision to exclude Alaska Independent Party candidate Bob Bird in the upcoming October 7 Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce debate.

Bob Bird has demonstrated that he is a credible contestant for the U.S. Senate seat with a point of view that deserves to be heard. In the recent Primary election Bob Bird received 5.6% of the combined Democratic, Alaska Independent and Libertarian vote. His positions are in many cases different from mine as well as my other opponent, Senator Stevens.

While I may differ with Bob Bird on many issues, I believe our democratic process is best served when we freely debate the issues before the public. I know that Mr. Bird has much to contribute and that his viewpoint will add to the public discourse concerning Alaska's and our nation's future. I urge you to include Mr. Bird in the upcoming debate.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Mark Begich
Candidate, U.S. Senate