

**PUBLIC
EMPLOYEES**



**Working Hard
for ALASKA**

DENNIS MOEN
Business Manager/
Secretary-Treasurer

LINDA McCRAY
President

HEADQUARTERS
2510 Arctic Blvd.
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
FAX (907) 279-7171
(907) 276-7211

2122 Airport Way
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
FAX (907) 456-1771
(907) 452-5024

722 West 9th Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801
FAX (907) 586-5757
(907) 586-6993

© SECURE 2000

April 1, 2016

RE: Geographical Differential (GEO Diff)/Subsistence update

Brothers and Sisters:

We believe the state missed an opportunity this negotiation to address the subsistence provisions of our contract and help our members in rural Alaska. Local 71 put forward numerous proposals that recognized the high cost of living in rural areas of the state in hopes that the administration would recognize the increased costs. The administration's proposals chose to cherry pick communities that got increases while reducing roughly 700 members that currently get subsistence. Their rationale was based on an outdated study that had been fairly discredited. The administration's team was under the belief that if some went up, most others had to go down. This was not a position your team could support. We do not believe in stripping wages from one group to give increases to another.

We did make a substantial advance by removing contract language that based Geo Diff on an antiquated Political Subdivision map from 50 years ago. The new contract will address specific locations, from 28 up to 98 individual locations. Now we will be able to focus our energies on the exact duty station locations that need increases. And we can further protect current rates, by dealing with exact locations, not broad Election Districts that change without warning.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

Fraternally,

Dennis Moen
Business Manager
Secretary-Treasurer

DM/tls