



# Alaska House Bush Caucus

Representative Neal Foster, Chair  
Alaska State Legislature  
Capitol Building, Room 410  
Juneau, AK 99801

Senator Lisa Murkowski  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Dan Sullivan  
702 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

September 14, 2018

Dear Senators Murkowski and Sullivan,

The ongoing evaluation of U.S. Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh's positions on a variety of legal matters is yielding increasingly troubling indications. It has become clear that his confirmation would threaten Alaskans' access to healthcare, women's reproductive rights, and the United States' special trust relationship with federally recognized tribes. Consequently, we urge you to vote against Mr. Kavanaugh's confirmation.

If elevated to the U.S. Supreme Court, Mr. Kavanaugh would likely contribute to decisions overturning cornerstones in the Affordable Care Act, including Medicaid expansion and protections for Americans with preexisting conditions. These are provisions of utmost importance to Alaskans, who have long been subject to the highest healthcare costs in the nation.

Mr. Kavanaugh's record also indicates he would join a conservative majority on the court to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. Such a ruling would threaten Alaskan women's reproductive health and affront all Alaskans' cherished right to privacy.

Regarding the rights of Alaska Natives and indigenous people across the United States, the statement of strong opposition to Mr. Kavanaugh's confirmation issued this week by the Alaska Federation of Natives details several disquieting examples of his views on such matters.

His overly narrow interpretation of the Commerce Clause could put at risk Alaska Natives' rights for self-determination, jeopardizing Congress's authority to enact such landmark legislation as the Indian Child Welfare Act. His flawed interpretation of the United States' trust responsibility to tribes, because of its narrow emphasis on reservations, would likely exclude most Alaska Natives, devastating their relationship with the federal government and even threatening the legitimacy of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

In short, supporting Mr. Kavanaugh's nomination is at odds with the interests and wellbeing of all Alaskans. For the good of your constituency, we urge you to oppose his confirmation.

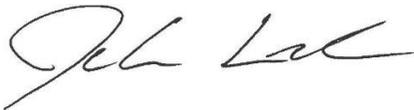
Sincerely,



Representative Neal Foster, Chair  
House District 39



Representative Bryce Edgmon  
House District 37



Representative John Lincoln  
House District 40



Representative Tiffany Zulkosky  
House District 38