

The Right Direction

Governor Murkowski Signs the FY 2005 Budget *Develop Resources - Good Jobs - Safer Communities - Quality Education*

Investing in Education

The budget **invests in Alaska's future** by increasing K-12 education funding by **\$82 million** bringing the state's total investment to \$805 million. This is a \$407 increase in the base student amount, for a total of \$4,576 per student.

*"By **reprioritizing** the budget, we are **able to invest** in Alaska's future in ways that are **important** to Alaskans."*

- Governor Frank H. Murkowski

Making Communities Safer

This budget **increases safety in communities by adding 20 troopers and nine prosecutors** to fight crime and keep Alaskans safer.



Governor Frank H. Murkowski meets with members of the Alaska State Troopers after signing major new crime legislation that will make Alaska communities safer.

Developing Alaska's Resources ... Making News

Governor Murkowski's budget adds 25 new positions in the Division of Oil and Gas to work to promote resource development in Alaska and open the gas pipeline.

Alaska Mining at Pace Not Seen in More Than Five Years
"Mineral exploration and development in Alaska is clipping along at a pace not seen in more than five years and in the process, these activities have sucked up just about all the people, rigs and aircraft in the state. Exploration and development projects are spread from Nome to Ketchikan, the Brooks Range to Iliamna." - Petroleum News, July 11, 2004

Canadian Firms Eye Alaska Investments

"According to officials within four companies, their interest in the state has been spurred by three things. At the top of the list is the Murkowski administration's campaign to attract new oil companies to Alaska, which has involved a serious marketing push by the Alaska Division of Oil and Gas." - Petroleum News, July 11, 2004

A Budget That Prioritizes

Increases in funding for education, public safety and resource development are possible because efficiencies and savings were found. Over the past two years, the Governor and his administration have been successful in proposing \$245 million in reductions. Today, because of our belt-tightening, we will deposit an estimated \$50 million in the state's reserve fund (CBR) due to these savings and higher oil prices.

For more complete budget information go to: <http://www.gov.state.ak.us/omb>

July 20, 2004