



# Alaskans Working For Alaska!

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March 7, 2008

Annette Kreitzer, Commissioner  
Department of Administration  
PO Box 110200  
Juneau AK 99811-0200

Re: AO 237, HB 417, and SB 297

Dear Commissioner Kreitzer:

I have reviewed the transmittal letter and provisions of HB 417 and SB 297 which were introduced by the Governor on March 3, 2008.

HB 417 and SB 297 repeal the longevity step provisions in AS 39.27.022 and create a service step concept that provides that employees who have reached the final merit step will receive a service step pay increment of 3.75% every two years thereafter. The transmittal letter states that the bills “would implement a portion of the recommendations of the AO 237 Working Group”. The Working Group’s Final Report lists as one of the near term actions to “prepare legislation to repeal longevity step impediments and replace with a fair alternative”.

This is a formal request from ASEA/AFSCME Local 52 to meet with the State to amend the July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2010 General Government Bargaining Unit Collective Bargaining Agreement with the State of Alaska to include the service step provisions that are in HB 417 and SB 297.

The request to meet to amend the GGU Collective Bargaining Agreement is made in accordance with your letter to me of September 5, 2007 which was in response to my concern about the impact of Administrative Order 237 on the GGU contract that was signed and set for a ratification vote. In your letter you stated the following: “Should the Working Group recommend and Governor Palin endorse a change which would impact the monetary terms in the contract soon to be before your members, I commit to you that we would seek to amend the contract to include any such change that affects your members”.

I suggest we meet in the near future to agree on language to amend the GGU contract to make the service steps provisions effective on the same date that is proposed in HB 417 and SB 297.

Sincerely,

Jim Duncan  
Business Manager  
ASEA/AFSCME Local 52

Cc: Nicki Neal, Director  
Division of Personnel and Labor Relations

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