## Turnagain Community Council – Senator Gray-Jackson's Report February 6, 2019

- The 2020 Legislative session is off to a great start.
- I want to share with you the following Bills that I am bringing forward this session:
  - o Testing procedures for sexual assault test kits.
  - Banning Private Prisons.
  - Amending State Statues on health professionals that can prescribe disability parking placards to include physical therapists, occupational therapists, and speech pathologists.

And a package of bills that would recognize cultural months in State Statues (permanently).

- Recognizing September as Hispanic Heritage Month.
- o Recognizing October as Filipino American History Month.
- o Recognizing March as Women's History Month.
- Recognizing May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.
- Recognizing June as LGBTQ Pride Month.
- o Recognizing April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
- I am proud to announce that on February 3, 2020, the House passed a resolution to name the House Health and Social Services and Education Committee room after the late Bettye Davis. This is so appropriate to honor such an amazing Woman. The Bill will be before the Senate for a vote shortly, and I'm looking forward to celebrating this great event; first, at the Bettye Davis African American Summit on February 29th and then, officially, in Juneau sometime March.

- An Anchorage Caucus meeting will be held on Saturday, February 22<sub>nd</sub>, from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the Anchorage Assembly Chambers in the Loussac Library, 3600 Denali St. Come share your feedback with your legislators.
- 2020 Census It is imperative that we all participate in this 10-year survey. It has consequences that all Alaskans will live with for the next 10 years. It affects the amount of Federal funding we receive for our infrastructure (capital projects), Medicaid funding and more. So, please, please be sure to participate in this effort!
- I want to invite everyone to join me and my staff for "Coffee with Elvi" so we can hear your priorities during this legislative session. We will be meeting at the Black Cup, 341 Benson Blvd. on March 7th, from 11-12:30pm. Come share your thoughts, opinions and enjoy a cup of coffee with us.

I hope you are enjoying my monthly E-newsletter. If you're not receiving them, please send your email address to my staff at Keith.Bauguess@akleg.gov.