

From: pl hamlett [plhamlett@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 11:14 AM
To: info@communitycouncils.org
Subject: FW: From the Desk of Johnny Ellis: Session will Begin Tomorrow

Mark,

pls fwd to CPCC members,

Thanks
PETER HAMLETT
CPCC Chair

From: Senator_Johnny_Ellis@legis.state.ak.us
To: Senator_Johnny_Ellis@legis.state.ak.us
Subject: From the Desk of Johnny Ellis: Session will Begin Tomorrow
Date: Tue, 17 Jan 2012 02:00:59 +0000

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**SENATOR
JOHNNY ELLIS**
Working hard
Solving problems
Getting things done
Alaska Capitol, Rm 119

January 16th, 2012

Second Session of the 27th Alaska Legislature Begins

Friends and Neighbors,

The second session of the 27th Alaska Legislature convenes tomorrow and will stay in session for the next 90 days. I return to my work as part of the [Senate Bipartisan Working Group](#) as the Chair of the Senate Rules Committee and a member of the Senate Finance Committee.

Juneau, AK 99801
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<http://ellis.aksenate.org>

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**Contact Other
Elected Officials:**

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[Sen. Mark Begich](#)
Congressman Don Young,

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[Rep. Don Young](#)
**Senator Lisa Murkowski,
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[Sen. Lisa Murkowski](#)
**Office of the Governor
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269-7450**

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The Senate Bipartisan Working Group gathers in Juneau.

As a member of the [Bipartisan Working Group](#) made up of both Republicans and Democrats, I believe it is time to take a statesmanlike approach to savings—we should take billions off the table to avoid overspending. I am grateful my Senate colleagues share that opinion. In a recent work session, the Senate majority established several key priorities that we will release soon. Continuing our Savings Spree (savings before spending) will be chief among them.

Taking \$4 billion Off the Table

I have filed a bill to take \$4 billion off the table by making a \$2 billion deposit to the principal of the Alaska Permanent Fund and paying down the State's debt by \$2 billion.

[Read the Bill](#)

[Read the Anchorage Daily News Editorial in Support](#)
Reforming Corrections & Combatting Substance Abuse

I will serve again this year as the Chair of the Senate Finance Subcommittee on the Department of Corrections. The Corrections budget continues to grow exponentially, and I believe we must work to bend the Corrections cost curve downward.

[Read my Op-Ed in the Fairbanks News Miner](#)
[Smart Justice Summit Reports and Testimony](#)



[Senator Ellis](#) chairing the Smart Justice Summit on October 3rd

How to Stay Informed

You can follow what happens in Juneau from across the State:

Lookup and Research Bills: <http://w3.legis.state.ak.us>

Watch and Listen at Home: [Gavel to Gavel TV](#)

Watch and Listen Online: www.alaskalegislature.tv

On your iPhone: [Download the Alaska Legislature App](#)

On [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), and [Twitter](#)

How to Stay in Touch

My staff and I will be working out of our Juneau office while the Legislature is in session. Please use the contact information listed below to let me know if there is anything my office can do to assist you.

Email: Senator.Johnny.Ellis@legis.state.ak.us

Website: www.aksenate.org/ellis

Toll Free Phone: 1-888-330-3704

Fax: (907) 465-2529

Mailing Address: Alaska Capitol, Rm 119, Juneau, AK 99801

As always, it is my honor and privilege to serve you in the Alaska State Senate, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Until Next Week,

Senator Johnny Ellis

P.S. *This is the fourth year Alaskans can take the opportunity to support causes they care about by making a safe and secure donation when they file online for their Permanent Fund Dividends. [Pick.Click.Give.](#) allows Alaska to contribute to Alaskan charities, nonprofits, community foundations and university campuses. [Applications for the PFD](#) will be accepted until March 31st, so be sure to complete your application before the deadline.*