

# Alaska State Legislature

## Office of the Senate President

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### *Senate President Gary Stevens, Ph.D*

Sen.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov

July 8, 2024

Homer City Mayor Ken Castner  
Homer City Council Members  
491 E. Pioneer Ave.  
Homer, AK 99603

To Mayor Castner and council members,

As the Alaska State Senator for District C, which includes Homer, I am writing to offer my support for the Homer Society of Natural History, Inc. dba Pratt Museum's Roof System Replacement project.

The Pratt Museum provides an integral community service to Homer and outlying towns. The museum not only houses irreplaceable historical artifacts that share the stories of the area's early native cultures, homesteading, and fishing, it also includes valuable regional artwork. The Pratt Museum is also a community center for science and learning connecting citizens, school groups, and tourists with the local marine environment and plant life through educational displays and collections. The museum is also a place for community gatherings hosting many educational, cultural, and artistic events every month of the year.

The Pratt Museum's roof has been in need of repair for many years. The staff should be commended on their efforts to maintain the safety of the museum's collection, but continued deterioration of the roof places all of these priceless artifacts, collections and artwork at risk. I included the Pratt Museum's Roof System Replacement project in our state legislature's Fiscal Year 2025 Capital Budget for \$250,000. This project was supported by the majority of the state legislature but was unfortunately vetoed by the Governor along with many other community projects across the state. I will do my best to support this project again during next sessions' fiscal year budget process. I encourage the City of Homer to also financially support this critical project as commitment to the preservation of the history and culture of the community while also demonstrating support and leverage for the museum to secure additional funds through other sources.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the Pratt Museum's Roof System Replacement project. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gary Stevens".

Sen. Gary Stevens

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District C