

AYEA Teens Push for Energy, Food, and Fish

2009 Civics & Conservation Summit Report



Teens from around Alaska converged in Juneau last week, delving into a world of environmental politics and speaking out about the issues they care about. Highlights from the week include meeting with Special Assistant to the Governor, Joe Balash, meeting our

Senators and Representatives, getting introduced during the House Floor Session, going to bill hearings, and even testifying! We wrapped up the week with a celebratory community dinner where we announced the winners of AYEAs annual Legislator Environmental Action Award.

Special Assistant to the Governor, Joe Balash, signed our petition to put \$50 million in the Alaska budget for renewable energy! Teens brought AYEAs statewide campaign petition to their legislators, asking them to sign it and show their support for budgeting \$50 million for renewable energy.



Legislator Environmental Action Awards – At our annual Community Dinner Celebration teens presented Environmental Action Awards to five legislators who have been doing impressive work on critical environmental issues. The award winners were selected by the youth Peer Leaders at the Summit. Congratulations to Sen. Lesil McGuire, Anchorage; Reps. Bill Thomas, Haines; Les Gara, Anchorage; Carl Gatto, Palmer and Bryce Edgmon, Dillingham.

Rebels to the Pebble –Dillingham teens Tamrit Grewal and Chanice Nelson gave a public presentation at the Summit about the proposed Pebble Mine and what they’ve done as part of the Rebels to the Pebble group to take action on this issue.

Focus Bills: energy, picked three focus on: SB 121- Public Buildings, HB Agricultural School”, and HB Sewage Systems. at the \$50 million for the Renewable researched their sponsors, and then lobbied their Senators and Representatives with their positions on the bills. Zoe Fuller from Palmer testified before the House Resources Committee on behalf of HB 70 - Farm to School bill!



food & fish – The group pieces of legislation to Energy Efficiency in 70- Alaska Grown Products “Farm to 46- Mixing Zones and In addition we looked budget appropriation Energy Fund. Teens bills, met with bill

The Civics & Conservation Summit is an annual, week-long training where Alaskan teens come together in Juneau to learn about the political process, focus on current environmental issues, and take action on the issues they are passionate about. This year’s summit included eighteen teens from ten communities across the state (Anchorage, Dillingham, Emmonak, Healy, Homer, Juneau, Kasilof, Kotzebue, Palmer, and Saint Paul Island).



- Photos of the summit can be found at www.flickr.com/photos/ayea
- Find out more about the statewide campaign “Renewable Energy in Alaska: Our Time is Now!” at www.ayea.org/WordPress/campaigns/current-campaign/
- More AYEА trainings – check out www.ayea.org/WordPress/training-events/

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