## ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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## SENATOR BERT K. STEDMAN

For Immediate Release: November 23, 2005

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## **Senator Bert Stedman Goes Back to School**

Spends a day with Elementary, High School Students and Teachers

(Sitka)—Sen. Bert Stedman (R-Sitka) returned to his youth for a day last week. Stedman was one of twenty-seven elected officials who participated in the "Alaska Legislators Back to School" program.

On Thursday November 17<sup>th</sup>, Senator Stedman spent a full school day with teachers and students from the Sitka School District. The District A Senator began his day at Sitka's Baranof Elementary School with school host Para-Professional Twila Keaveny. "I was impressed with the enthusiasm and attentiveness of the youngsters I met at Baranof," said the Senator. "The dedicated people who teach these kids are doing a great job educating our students." After a brief lunch break, Stedman headed to Sitka High School, where he spent the afternoon with social studies teacher Ted Howard and his students. "I'm reassured that students today are taking their education as seriously as they have in the past," said Stedman. "It's obvious that teachers, administrators and families are working together to educate students so that they are ready to continue building Alaska's bright future."

Senator Stedman, who's daughter is in the Sitka public school system, said he appreciated the hospitality of Principal Michelle Beach and the rest of the staff at Baranof, as well as that of Principal Howard Wayne and his staff at Sitka High. Stedman plans to continue participating in the "Alaska Legislators Back to School" program and looks forward to visiting schools in other Southeast communities in the future. As a member of the Senate Finance Committee, Stedman will be working closely with the Department of Education and Early Development to ensure that the needs of Alaska's students are adequately addressed in the upcoming legislative session.

Senator Stedman represents Senate District A, which includes the Southeast communities of Ketchikan, Sitka, Wrangell and Petersburg.