



## Media Alert

October 20, 2015 – Anchorage, Alaska

### Mike Gordon announces candidacy for State House in Anchorage

Longtime Alaskan Mike Gordon announced his candidacy for State House District 18 in Anchorage today upon filing his Letter-of-Intent with the Division of Elections.

“We have another looming state budget deficit, as much or more than last year’s \$3.5 billion shortfall,” said Gordon. “As a Republican, and part of the House Majority, I’ll make a difference by offering an experienced business perspective targeting sustainability and accountability.”

Gordon, along with his wife Shelli of 32 years, is the father of two adult children and seven grandchildren. In 1970, he opened the iconic Chilkoot Charlie’s in Spenard, in the heart of the current district for which he seeks public office. Beyond advocacies like Rotary where he is a Past President of the Downtown Club, Paul Harris Fellow, and Major Donor; Special Olympics; Boy Scouts of America; Anchorage Opera; Alaska Mental Health Association, where he received the “Volunteer of the Year” recognition, and other civic and non-profit support, Gordon mountain climbed for five years. Gordon reached the peaks of the highest mountain on six of the seven continents. Attempting Mt. Everest three times, he reached 27,500 feet in 1993 at the age of 50. Gordon served on the Anchorage City Council and Borough Assembly from 1971 to 1974, when city and borough united into the current Municipality of Anchorage.

Gordon’s candidacy is less about challenging an incumbent Democrat and more about reviewing State departments and programs to determine what needs to be refined and possibly reduced or eliminated, recognizing education and public safety should never be compromised. A cohesive legislature and recognition and implementation of available opinions to resolve Alaska’s financial crisis will be Mike Gordon’s primary focus.

“I’ve been in Anchorage for sixty years. I understand what my neighbors and fellow Alaskans expect from their legislator,” added Gordon. “Our economy and regulatory environment are unfriendly to both entrepreneur and employee; we need to promote incentives for new businesses. We must enhance responsible natural resource development. Every option should be on the table for consideration to achieve fiscal stability. We need to stop kicking the can down the road and start making difficult but sensible choices about Alaska’s present and future economic viability. I’ve owned and successfully managed businesses for forty-five years. I’ll add to the dialogue and generate solutions. That matters.”

Gordon has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a Minor in Philosophy from the University of San Francisco. He recently graduated with a Master of Arts in Writing from Alaska Pacific University. He has been a licensed pilot, scuba diver and realtor and enjoys hunting, fishing, hiking, skiing, reading, writing, traveling and working on his summer home in Halibut Cove.

“This will be another adventure and a tough climb, but I want to serve my neighbors and my state. As a state representative I can give back to Alaska by contributing my years of business and community service experience. Alaska needs to plan for its future—now.” added Gordon.

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