



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **ASRC Congratulates Tara Sweeney for Historic Confirmation**

*Today's unanimous consent vote in U.S. Senate is final hurdle for Sweeney to become Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs*

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More than a month after facing tough questions from a U.S. Senate panel, Tara Mac Lean Sweeney's nomination for Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs moved out of committee late this afternoon and onto the Senate floor. There, her confirmation passed by unanimous consent. Without objection from either party, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell confirmed Sweeney is now the next Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs

Sweeney now holds the first and only presidential nomination and U.S. Senate-confirmed position for any Alaska Native woman in state history. President Trump made the original nomination announcement in mid-October of last year.

"This has been a long and exhaustive process, but we always knew Tara was up for the challenge," said Rex A. Rock Sr., ASRC president and CEO. "We are all so proud of her, and look forward to her tenacity and fearless leadership while serving those in Indian Country."

Sweeney will oversee the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as well as the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE), among other offices. The date for her to be sworn in has not yet been determined.

### **About ASRC**

Arctic Slope Regional Corporation is owned by and represents the business interests of the Arctic Slope Iñupiat. Since opening enrollment in 1989 to Alaska Natives born after 1971, the corporation's shareholder base has nearly tripled, growing from the 3,700 original enrollees to approximately 13,000 today. Corporate headquarters are based in Utqiagvik (Barrow), Alaska, with administrative and subsidiary offices located in Anchorage and throughout the United States. ASRC, along with its family of companies, is the largest Alaskan-owned company, employing more than 13,000 people across Alaska and the Lower 48. The company has six major business segments: government contract services, petroleum refining and marketing, energy support services, industrial services, construction, and resource development.