

For Immediate Release

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For More Information Call: Binkley for Governor Campaign Headquarters, 907-279-2006. To schedule interviews with John Binkley call Susan Christianson, 907-209-7231 or call Russ Kelley 907-223-3694.

**Republican Gubernatorial Candidate John Binkley Says
Legislative Approval A Must for Any Gasline Deal**

Republican gubernatorial candidate John Binkley said today that a gasline contract is too important to Alaskans to be left up to Frank Murkowski's administration without legislative oversight.

"Alaskans and their representatives in the Legislature must be heard before any gasline contract is signed," Binkley said. "Frank Murkowski cannot be allowed to recklessly push his fatally flawed contract through unchecked."

Binkley said a provision must be added to any gasline contract language requiring legislative approval. Attorneys recently said no such requirement exists, leaving the door open for Murkowski to approve a contract deal despite the numerous concerns of the Legislature and the public.

"Adding a provision to the contract, requiring Murkowski to get approval from the Legislature, is common sense," Binkley said. "I cannot understand why Murkowski is so fearful of constructive criticism when it comes to this vital project for Alaska's future. We must have assurances in writing that Murkowski will not be allowed to ramrod this contract at all costs."

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