

# Kodiak Delegation Feels Good About AG Nominee Sullivan

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Erik Wander/KMXT

## Alaska

legislators appear likely to confirm Governor Sarah Palin's latest choice for attorney general, and Kodiak's representatives to Juneau expressed similar confidence that Dan S. Sullivan will be approved. But first, the House and Senate Judiciary Committees have to thoroughly review his credentials and interim job performance.

Sullivan must be confirmed by the Legislature, but will serve in the role until lawmakers reconvene in January. Senate President Gary Stevens of Kodiak said he has spoken with Sullivan and likes his qualifications for the job. He also said his service in the meantime will provide lawmakers a chance to see what he's capable of doing in the role before ultimately making the decision.

-- (Reaction  
1 36 sec. "I think he's certainly ... will easily be appointed.")

## Kodiak

State House Representative Alan Austerman said he hasn't yet had an opportunity to meet or speak with Sullivan. But he said he's read and heard good things about him and also believes he will be approved by legislators.

-- (Reaction  
2 14 sec. "What I've read and been ... he's very well qualified.")

## Austerman

does have experience with Palin's last choice for the job, Anchorage attorney Wayne Anthony Ross, whom lawmakers rejected in a 35 to 23 vote in April. All the Democrats in the Legislature voted against Ross and were joined by nine Republicans, including Stevens and Austerman. Austerman described Ross as a controversial and polarizing figure.

-- (Reaction  
3 16 sec. "Obviously the whole issue ... no way I could vote for him.")

Stevens

had a slightly different take on why Ross was not confirmed, noting community reaction against his nomination.

-- (Reaction  
4 48 sec. "The Legislature is a reflection  
... it'll be good for Alaska.")

Sullivan is a former U.S. assistant secretary of state in the Bush administration. He practiced business law in Anchorage for two years, and has what several news outlets have referred to as a "blue chip resume," including degrees from Harvard and Georgetown universities.

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