June 17, 1952

Hon. Ernest Gruening
Governor of Alaska
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Governor Gruening:

Thank you very much for your thoughtful and comprehensive letter of June 2 explaining the situation with regard to the Alaskan delegation to the Democratic National Convention.

I can well appreciate the attitude taken by the delegates and their reasons therefor. I continue to hope that you will do your best, if you find it proper, to urge the delegates to look sympathetically on the candidacy of Mr. Harriman. I think he would do more for Statehood than any other President since I am convinced that he has a broader concept of the significance of Statehood in the framework of our world policy.

Both Julius and I have spoken to him and to his campaign committee about the desirability of his taking a strong and early stand on Statehood, and I think he will be saying something on this matter in the very near future if he has not done so earlier. When such a statement is made, I will make sure you will get a copy.

Kind personal regards.

Very sincerely yours,