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For Immediate Release:

## **Benson closes gap to only 9 points**

Anchorage – On the heels of a 14 point gain in just three weeks, the Diane Benson for Congress campaign completed a new poll based on the methodology of Craciun’s October 15<sup>th</sup> poll.

A poll conducted by Hays Research Group on October 24 – 25, 2006 of 400 registered voters who are more likely to vote in the upcoming election. The poll contains a five point margin of error.

- Don Young 43%
- Diane Benson 34%
- Other Candidates 7%
- Undecided 15%
- Refused to Answer 2%

“This is another great step for this campaign”, states Kris J. Pierce, Campaign Manager for the Diane Benson campaign.

“This shows that we are reaching out to the voters of this state. We are gaining and are closer than any other Democrat since John Devens, former Mayor of Valdez in 1990.”

The poll showed that Rep. Young lost nine points to the Undecided in just the last week since the Craciun poll. The results also showed seven points for third party candidates. Benson received the endorsement of Alexander Crawford on the KAKM “Runnings” program on Wednesday night. Crawford is the Libertarian Party candidate for Congress.

“We welcome all voters of all political parties that feel that our federal government and the focus of the current representative is not in the best interest of Alaska”, continued Pierce.

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