

March 05, 2009

Dear Alaskan Legislator:

The educational loans provided by the Alaska Student Loan Corporation are crucial to the success of thousands of University of Alaska students. The funding from loans allows these students to continue and complete their educational goals in Alaska. Only the federal government provides more financial assistance to UA students.

The University of Alaska supports efforts that help the Alaska Student Loan Corporation secure the necessary funding to prevent a disruption of lending activities to Alaskan's seeking a post-secondary education in general and students at the University of Alaska in particular.

The Alaska Student Loan Corporation annually helps over 4700 students at the University of Alaska – at both the urban and rural campuses. Loans totaling over \$40 million dollars help students fulfill their educational goals in the state - leading to a more prepared and qualified Alaskan workforce.

Thank you,

Saichi T Oba

Associate Vice President

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Office of Student & Enrollment Services

University of Alaska

Office of Student and Enrollment Services 910 Yukon Drive ~ Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-5020 Received from the Chair of Student Senate, Associated Students of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, on 3/12/09.

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of full support for legislation and related initiatives to provide interim funding to the Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ASLC), until such time as the markets recover sufficiently for ASLC to complete bonding.

The alternative financing proposed in the Governor's bill and endorsed by the Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ASLC) and the Alaska Department of Revenue is a win/win solution that meets an urgent statewide need to assist students in financing their education programs with no cost to the state's General Fund.

We understand that unless this alternative is approved quickly, Alaska will not be able to provide low-cost financial aid to our students. Without ASLC's loans, we expect that many of Alaska's college and vocational students may not be able to continue in or start school this year. We also understand that nationwide, education loans are becoming much harder to come by. In fact, 177 lenders to date have suspended their education loan programs. Specific to Alaska, several large banks indicate they will no longer be making loans in Alaska. The same economy that caused the market collapse has also resulted in increases in unemployment, resulting in many students staying in school longer, and many adults returning to school for re-training to get better jobs. The bottom line is that these factors result in fewer options for financial aid at the same time as the demand for financial aid is increasing. While there are increased grant provisions included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, those funds are targeted only to the very neediest students.

Your full and prompt support of legislation to provide interim financing to fund AlaskAdvantage loans is urgently needed, and will result in no cost to the state. Without your support, Alaska's students will suffer.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jennifer S Chambers ASUAF Senate Chair



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March 5, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

Career Academy is Alaska' largest Alaskan owned accredited private career college serving over 600 students annually. Career Academy fully supports legislation and related initiatives to provide interim funding to the Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ASLC), until such time as the markets recover sufficiently for ASLC to complete bonding.

The alternative financing proposed in the Governor's bill and endorsed by the Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ASLC) and the Alaska Department of Revenue is a win/win solution that meets an urgent statewide need to assist our students in financing their education programs with no cost to the state's General Fund.

We understand that unless this alternative is approved quickly, Alaska will not be able to provide low-cost financial aid to our students. Without ASLC's loans, we expect that many of Alaska's college and vocational students may not be able to continue in or start school this year. We also understand that nationwide, education loans are becoming much harder to come by. In fact, 177 lenders to date have suspended their education loan programs. Specific to Alaska, several large banks indicate they will no longer be making loans in Alaska. The same economy that caused the market collapse has also resulted in increases in unemployment, resulting in many students staying in school longer, and many adults returning to school for re-training to get better jobs. The bottom line is that these factors result in fewer options for financial aid at the same time as the demand for financial aid is increasing. While there are increased grant provisions included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, those funds are targeted only to the very neediest students. In addition many many Alaskan students are not eligible to receive these grants due to the increased wage scale in Alaska. These same grant programs do not take into consideration the increased cost of living in Alaska.

Your full and prompt support of legislation to provide interim financing to fund AlaskAdvantage loans is urgently needed, and will result in no cost to the state. Without your support, Alaska's students will suffer. Last year approximately 125 students enrolled at Career Academy used over \$692,000 in ASLC funds to at least in part fund their educational programs. Without these loan funds being available they would not have been able to attend college, receive their education, and become valuable trained professional in Alaska's workforce

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jennifer A. Deitz President & Founder



March 5, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of Alaska Vocational Technical Center's (AVTEC) full support for legislation and related initiatives to provide interim funding to the Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ASLC), until such time as the markets recover sufficiently for ASLC to complete bonding.

The alternative financing proposed in the Governor's bill and endorsed by the Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ASLC) and the Alaska Department of Revenue is a win/win solution that meets an urgent statewide need to assist our students in financing their education programs with no cost to the state's General Fund.

We understand that unless this alternative is approved quickly, Alaska will not be able to provide low-cost financial aid to our students. Without ASLC's loans, we expect that many of Alaska's college and vocational students may not be able to continue in or start school this year. AVTEC provides many training programs and opportunities for Alaskans that are needed for employment in good paying high skilled jobs. These programs are more important now than ever before, as Alaskans face tighter economic conditions.

I urge your full and prompt support of legislation to provide interim financing to fund AlaskAdvantage loans is urgently needed, and will result in no cost to the state. Without your support, Alaska's students will suffer. Last year 79 of the 364 students enrolled at our institution used ASLC educations to fund, at least in part, their educational programs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Fred W. Esposito

AVTEC Director



March 3, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of the Alaska Technical Center's full support for legislation and related initiatives to provide interim funding to the Alaska Student Lean Corporation (ASLC), until such time as the markets recover sufficiently for ASLC to complete bonding.

The alternative financing proposed in the Governor's bill and endorsed by the Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ASLC) and the Alaska Department of Revenue is a win/win solution that meets an urgent statewide need to assist our students in financing their education programs with no cost to the state's General Fund.

We understand that unless this alternative is approved quickly. Alaska will not be able to provide low-cost financial aid to our students. Without ASLC's loans, we expect that many of Alaska's college and vocational students may not be able to continue in or start school this year. We also understand that nationwide, education loans are becoming much harder to come by. In fact, 177 lenders to date have suspended their education loan programs. Specific to Alaska, several large banks indicate they will no longer be making loans in Alaska. The same economy that caused the market collapse has also resulted in increases in unemployment; resulting in many students staying in school longer, and many adults returning to school for re-training to get better jobs. The bottom line is that these factors result in fewer options for financial aid at the same time as the demand for financial aid is increasing. While there are increased grant provisions included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, those funds are targeted only to the very needlest students.

Your full and prompt support of legislation to provide interim financing to fund AlaskAdvantage loans is urgently needed, and will result in no cost to the state. Without your support, Alaska's students will suffer. Over the years, we have had many students enrolled at our institution who used ASLC educations to fund, at least in part, their educational programs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully.

Cheryl Edenshaw, Director

Alaska Technical Center