

Resolution in Support of Inflation Proofing the Base Student Allocation for Alaska Students
By a Coalition of Non-Profits
February, 2014

Whereas, investing in the education of Alaska's children and youth is of utmost importance to their future and to the future of our State;

Whereas, we are dedicated to helping children, youth and adults thrive;

Whereas, public education is crucial to the success of Alaska's social, political and economic systems;

Whereas, we understand -- often first-hand -- the significant adverse costs to our community and state when youth drop out of school and fail to graduate;

Whereas, we know both statistically and through our experiences that the number of children and youth in our schools who are economically disadvantaged has increased from 26 percent in 2004 to over 45 percent in 2012; and that it is vitally important to help these youth succeed through additional investment in their education;

Whereas, all of us understand that to maintain education services or any other human services at adequate levels, there needs to be inflation-proofing, especially given increases in healthcare and other costs;

Whereas, the primary source of funds for education in Alaska is the Base Student Allocation (BSA);

Whereas, the BSA has not been increased in four years;

Whereas, the Anchorage School District has already made significant cuts, which have eliminated or reduced important services to help youth succeed, including summer school and middle school and college counselors;

Whereas, the Anchorage School District has prepared and is executing its Destination 2020 goals, in alignment with the 90% by 2020 Partnership, including increasing graduation rates, but continued progress on these goals is in jeopardy if the BSA is not inflation-proofed;

Whereas, ASD is projecting a deficit of \$49 million over the next two years, and will have to make significant and damaging cuts, including eliminating teacher positions, increasing class sizes, and reducing needed services and programs;

Whereas, these cuts will have adverse impacts on children, youth, and our community, now and into the future;

Therefore, we the undersigned non-profits support increased funding of the Base Student Allocation to reflect inflation increases for the last several years.

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Non Profit Organizations

Access Alaska

Alan Budahl, LSSA, Lutheran Social Services

Alaska Institute for Justice

Alaska Literacy Program

Alaska Youth Advocates

Alison E. Kear, Covenant House Alaska

Amy Simpson, Programs for Infants & Children

Anchorage Youth Development Coalition

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Alaska

Bill Donovan, CPC

Boys & Girls Club - Alaska

Camp Fire Alaska

Catholic Social Services

Denis McCarville, AK Child & Family

Elaine Dahlgren, VOAAK, Volunteers of America Alaska

Francine Harbour, NAMI Alaska

Heather Davis, Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association

Michelle Cassano, American Diabetes Association Alaska

Money Management International

Narcotic Drug Treatment Center, Inc

Norm Lagasse, Habitat for Humanity Anchorage

Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest

Rebecca Koford, Anchorage Youth Court

Ruth Schoenleben, Nine Star Education & Employment Services

Spirit of Youth

Thread Alaska's Child Care Resource and Referral Network

United Way of Anchorage

Victims for Justice

YWCA Alaska
