

Barbara Barnes

From: Mary Calmes <yetna2@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 1:16 PM
To: Mary Calmes
Cc: Rep. Scott Kawasaki; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Click Bishop; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. David Guttenberg; Rep. Tammie Wilson
Subject: Issues of concern

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Greetings Representatives and Senators from the Interior.

There are a few issues that have been of concern to me of late.

One issue is the governor's proposal to use **public monies to support private schools**. *I am opposed to this on every level.* I am NOT in any way associated with NEA, in fact I am a woman who opted to homeschool my sons. I also have no affiliation with religious institutions and hold firmly to separation of church and state. There is no reason in my mind why public monies should be provided to private schools.

Secondly, *I support the state's proposal to give the Fairbanks North Star Borough the power to monitor and enforce state regulations on air quality.* These are issues that are most effectively dealt with on the local level. We heat with wood and are more than willing to make the adjustments necessary to ameliorate our contribution to air pollution. We have found the borough's programs to encourage residents to make changes both compelling and generous. We value air quality and understand that we all need to be part of the solution.

As a retiree who is part of the State Health Care program, **I am concerned about the changes that have been made to the retiree health package.** The change to Aetna came with no announcement to those affected that a change was in the offing nor were the options being considered brought to light before decisions were made. Suddenly we are faced with choosing from a list of network providers, having to obtain permission for medical procedures, and with clear changes in approved medications. Health care coverage is complex and I am concerned that problems with the new coverage will only manifest themselves when folks have need for the care. We need to be provided with a clear understanding of how the change from HealthSmart to Aetna has affected our coverage. The state should be responsible for providing that information.

Thank you for your service to the people of the State of Alaska and in particular to those of us in the Interior.

Mary A Calmes

Mary & Tim
Fairbanks, AK

It has been said that man is a rational animal. All my life I have been searching for evidence which could support this.

-Bertrand Russel