

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Honorable Representative Gattis, Chair  
Education Committee  
State Capitol Room 420  
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## **SPONSOR STATEMENT HB138 Education Pink Slips**

HB138 addresses a long-time issue known to many as “pink slips for teachers.” Under existing law, school districts are required to issue notices of non-retention for tenured teachers by March 15 if a district believes it may have to lay off a tenured teacher for the subsequent school year.

A school district generally doesn’t know the level of funding it will receive from the legislature until sometime between the end of the legislative session and when the governor approves the operating budget. When school districts issue these “pink slips” it causes unnecessary tension between the teachers and the school district administration. This bill moves the notice date from March 15 to May 15, approximately one month after the legislative session has ended. This timing change will give the school districts the time and information they need to make these important decisions.

HB138 changes the date of layoff/non-retention notice to May 15 to allow educators to focus on the quality of teaching through the end of the school year rather than focus on pending employment status.