



February 13, 2013

Representative Lynn Gattis  
State Capitol  
120 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Mail Stop 3100  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

The Honorable Representative Lynn Gattis:

As president of NEA-Alaska, representing nearly 13,000 educators and education support professionals, I am writing to inform you that NEA-Alaska opposes House Bill 93. We oppose HB 93 for the following reasons:

- It is an attack against local control. As these new charter schools “pop up” in school districts and decrease enrollment in traditional public schools, school districts may be forced to close neighborhood schools. Currently school districts are able to make decisions about charter schools that benefit all students.
- This bill creates a second-tier charter schools system which would waste state funds by paying for administrative costs for this second-tier of charter schools. Alaskans would be paying for a “duplication” of services, since current charter schools are able to take advantage of shared administrative services already provided by the school district, providing efficiency and cost savings.
- HB93 diverts money from our public schools. Alaska’s public schools have been making significant cuts since the Base Student Allocation has not kept up with the cost of inflation.

NEA-Alaska opposes HB 93.

Please include this letter in the bill packet.

Respectfully,

Ron Fuhrer  
NEA-Alaska President