



**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

**Dr. Deena M. Paramo**

*Mission: Mat-Su Borough School District prepares students for*

April 5, 2013

Alaska House of Representatives  
House Education Committee

**RE: Support for House Bill 196**

Dear House Education Committee Members,

I'm writing you on behalf of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District's support for House Bill 196, an act relating to group insurance coverage and self-insurance coverage for school district employees.

The District currently spends approximately \$30 million on health insurance benefits each year in its general operating fund – roughly 15% of all expenditures. With the average cost of health care increasing by approximately 12% annually, MSBSD could potentially experience a \$3.6 million increase, which is the equivalent of 36 teaching positions. In an effort to preserve teaching positions and control escalating costs, the Mat-Su Borough School District appreciates and fully supports the concept of a statewide insurance plan.

On behalf of the Mat-Su Borough School District, I thank you for sponsoring HB 196 and for your overall commitment to education. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Paramo".

Dr. Deena M. Paramo  
Superintendent