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I salute the chairman and members of the Senate Education Committee. I am Stuart Thompson—an Alaska citizen living in Senator Huggins district—acting on behalf of myself and posterity in support of Senator Stevens SCR 1. I have carefully prepared 3 minute testimony that succinctly supplements what I've already communicated. Start of my testimony.

My previous testimony on record covered clear justification for launching a legislative task force on civics education, and suggested amendments that would strengthen results from that task force. Some of these amendments apparently have already found favor with Senator Stevens. I am happy to contribute.

There are two matters I shall cover today. One is why I apparently come across as a mad-dog before you. The other is arming you against intimidation from Alaska's apparent fiscal troubles in the pursuit of your duties under Article 7 of the Alaska Constitution.

First, why do I seem to come across as a mad-dog? There are two well-evidenced principles about all government that clarify matters. To save time, consider the simplest one,

Currently, citizens are expected to just voice their concerns and mere opinions about bills—easily accomplished in three minutes. So who am I to try to take time to testify on relevant facts, law, history, and bill improvements as if I was one of those so-called experts—who are allowed an hour or more for “presentations”? I testify the way I do because history teaches that multiple minds—organized even incrementally—do a better job of piecing together solutions than even a couple geniuses given the same task.. If it wasn't for this, democracies and republics like ours wouldn't ever have reason to come into existence! We'd all be living under Plato's philosopher kings, as advised by councils of investigators.

Second, if you think favorably of Senator Steven's SCR1, but are discouraged because of Alaska's fiscal troubles, take heart. I have five stand-alone solutions for financing SCR1's task force and even its eventual recommendations—all arising from our political heritage. None depend on “~~stealing from~~ Peter to pay Paul”. Naturally, I don't have sufficient time to elaborate here and now, and finance is not under this committee's jurisdiction. But since past Legislatures have been weak in their fiduciary duties—thereby creating Alaska's current fiscal troubles—you senators should jointly urge Finance to show some humility and consider some outside-of-the box thinking.

So all I ask of this committee—beyond passing this bill out—is for its members to contrive making the Finance Committee give me 9 minutes to present my ideas for financing SCR1 and its inevitable task force recommendations. Senator Dunleavy, you might remind fellow Finance Committee members that the time-honored maxim for handling fiscal problems is creating additional income streams while concurrently cutting expenditures. And ask how they can deny my 9 minutes on that basis. Consequently if they balk or get egotistical, Senator Huggins can legitimately execute a maneuver as Rules Committee Chairman. He can threaten to bring this bill and my fiscal testimony to a Committee of the Whole—due to Finance Committee negligence.

As usual, I am faxing this testimony to the Committee, and as a courtesy I'll fax the prepared testimony I want to give to the Finance Committee as well. It doesn't matter which of my solutions to financing SCR1 gets utilized — they all achieve the same result. But what is criminal—I repeat criminal—is rejecting any and all solutions to a problem that I have drastically proven is inherently solvable. Good luck on your deliberations.

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Courtesy faxed  
12 March to Education  
Committee as per  
testimony

Greetings to the Chairmen and members of the Senate Finance Committee. I am Stuart Thompson, an informed citizen of Senator Huggins district, here to testify in support of SCR1. My senator can attest that I don't give frivolous or irrelevant testimony. Start of my prepared 9 minute testimony.

Under Alaska's legislative rules, your jurisdiction over SCR1 is over its financial impact. Concerns over its educational necessity should have already been settled by respecting the Education Committee's deliberations and the public testimony given it—including mine. Those committee members who have failed to do their homework should recuse themselves from participating today—lacking the competence to do so. If you don't like this reality, don't waste Alaska's time. Just move to have this bill go before the Senate Committee of the Whole.

Over the years, the Legislature's finance committees—laboring under increasing ignorance of fundamentals of government of, for and by the people—have lost credibility. An unbiased observer would find finance committee activity has become nothing more than a squabble over money to gratify constituencies and special interests—with a few honorable things thrown in as sop to conscience. Is this a rant against politicians? No. The greater responsibility for this lays with us Alaskans—hence the importance of SCR1. The relative truth of these observations is demonstrated by the self-evident modern condition Alaskans generally suffer from. We are nothing more than economic paraplegics suckling at the teats of the oil companies and the federal government, and whipped with fear-mongering to keep us docile in our servitude.

So I am breaking with tradition and call for serious legislative attention to honoring ultimate power as expressed by Article I, Section 1 & 2 of the Alaska Constitution. I am offering 5 stand-alone means of covering the fiscal impact of SCR1 and its inevitable task force recommendations. They allow us to spit on current fiscal troubles. They all arise from our political heritage, and are unique only because of government's tendency to encourage citizen and legislator ignorance.

- 1) There is one concept I shall repeat from earlier testimony for its fiscal relevance. **The volume of true citizen participation in government of, for, and by the People is probably the most reliable test for public education effectiveness that could ever be.** In other words, if we are not getting volume citizen participation in our system of self-government to produce life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, Alaska is being ripped off by its education spending. And you officials are unwittingly condoning it. So lean on the Alaska Bar Association to provide pro-bono legal services to investigate and prosecute fraud and embezzlement—and fraudulent compliance to our Constitution's Article 7. They should target education contractors and subject-matter dictators—like text book vendors and federal government-supported special interests. Consider. If the state paid for bridge construction, and the bridge failed spectacularly from shoddy work and materials, we would sue the contractor, right? This method might take awhile, but we could recover millions.
- 2) If you take off the social engineering arbitrariness forced on teachers, and make students actually practice methodologies of our political heritage through assisting in their own education, current funding would suffice. Look at all the money that would be saved from not paying for goon administrators, drugs and prison-like school design—that are absolutely necessary to support the methodologies of school feudalism (territorial rule by nobles). What am I saying? Consider the supreme hypocrisy of treating kids as ignorant, unruly peasants, while toothlessly “teaching” them about our heritage of liberty and justice. Students should naturally laugh and jeer at this (called free speech), but they don't dare because they rightly fear feudal punishment. Example: look into Juneau's “Bong Hits for Jesus” student reprisal incident.

- 3) Arrange for PFD donations (pick, click, give) to defray Alaska civics education costs. This avoids the dedicated funding prohibitions on the Legislature. The legitimacy of this artifice is completely supported by our Constitution's Article I, Section 1. It can be truthfully pitched as a direct way for citizens to increase future PFD's. The maxim "money talks, B.S. walks" applies. If even half of PFD recipients gave \$5, there'd be well over a million to defray the costs of teaching true civics and our political heritage. You'd have to protect against embezzlement for other uses, of course.
- 4) Direct the UAA to sell some of its land to contribute funding for civics education. It's actually a natural investment that will drive up tuition income. How's this? Encouraging self-government early forces people's faces into how they need to acquire more skills and second-hand information to achieve their ambitions or dreams for themselves and others. The courage to pursue an ambition or dream is the greatest power known to man for overcoming obstacles. Example: if a young person conceives that it's a necessity for posterity's welfare to develop and get utilized environmentally friendly mining technology; and riding the wave of this would make him wealthy; he'd be onto going to university like flies on excrement. This is another "money talks, B.S. walks" proposition.
- 5) The most powerful solution to getting civics and our full political heritage taught is to use the power of civic participation itself. Have the Governor openly ask Alaskans of every political stripe—liberal, libertarian, and conservative—to donate time to explain in classrooms their take on government (with substantiation from the documents within our political heritage). Students would be first carefully educated—using the discipline of the Scientific Method—that opinions & schemes derived from repeatedly verified principles are never as valuable as the principles themselves. This is the answer to fears of susceptibility to propaganda and data manipulation. This way volunteers also don't get accused of, and punished for, allegedly corrupting youth like Socrates. Here are two quotes from US founding fathers that elaborate on what I mean:

*"Shake off all the fears of servile prejudices, under which weak minds are servilely crouched. Fix reason firmly in her seat, and call on her tribunal for every fact, every opinion. Question with boldness even the existence of a God; because, if there be one, he must more approve of the homage of reason than that of blindfolded fear." -- Thomas Jefferson*

*"An army of principles will penetrate where an army of soldiers cannot. It will succeed where diplomatic management would fail. It is neither the Rhine, the Channel, nor the Ocean that can arrest progress. It will march on the horizons of the world, and it will conquer." -- Thomas Paine*

Conclusion: the greatest enabler of political corruption is ignorance. Why should we citizens suffer from general ignorance of the riches of our political heritage? Why should citizens called to public service—like you—have your honor compromised by fellow citizen ignorance? Haven't we citizens been tortured enough with betrayals of the dreams that founded our state and country? Why can't you legislators ride a tidal wave of People Power to glory and renown? This triumphant epic awaits true public access to the full contents of our political heritage.

Please pass SCR1 with any amendments to fiscally support it, as necessary. Any questions? If not, good luck on your deliberations.

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