

From: [Todd Hindman](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: Proposed Cuts to Education
Date: Friday, March 27, 2015 7:20:40 PM

Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to you to express my concern and opposition over two proposed cuts to education funding that would have a profound effect on the children of Nome and Alaska.

Unfortunately, too many of our children do not come from homes that have parents that are able to adequately prepare their children for being successful in school, I estimate at least a third of our children in Nome need extra time and assistance to make sure the get off to a good start in their schooling. Over the past several years, Nome Public Schools has been awarded a grant that has added three pre-school classrooms offered to the children and families of Nome. Before, we only had a locally run Nome Pre-School Association that could only serve around twenty children. While we still have the classroom run by the Association, we have been able to serve four times the number of children than before. The data collected at the time of enrollment and at the graduation for the students clearly shows that the children have made great advances in their ability to read and be better prepared to enter Kindergarten. We can't afford to lose this great opportunity that makes such a big difference in so many children's lives and even our community's future.

The broadband elimination would also hurt Nome Public Schools as a whole, causing the district to divert funds from other areas to be able to keep the technology services we currently are able to provide our students. Student lives are immersed in technology outside of school and educators have to be able to tap that interest in technology into the subjects they teach. I know here at Anvil City Science Academy technology is a integral part of student learning, on a daily basis. And in such a remote part of the world, the Internet and access to it are even more important. In our technology driven world, this is another cut we can't afford to make.

Thanks you for your time and consideration,

Todd Hindman
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"The most exciting phrase to hear in science, the one that heralds new discoveries, is not 'Eureka!' (I found it!) but 'That's funny ...'"
-Isaac Asimov