

From: [Judy Andree](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: SB 139 & Education funding
Date: Monday, March 07, 2016 9:56:11 AM

Dear Senate Finance members,

We are writing in support of full funding as promised for the SBA with the \$50 adjustment for Alaska's public schools. In addition, we support funding for the pre-K program and the related Best Beginnings and Parents as Teachers programs, the funding for which has been cut. And we support funding the UA system with the funding cuts proposed by the Governor, as these seem in keeping with the need to reduce Alaska's budget in a sensible manner. Our children have and now our grandchildren are benefiting from public education in Alaska. We have had our children attend the full range of public education institutions over our fifty years in this state, ranging from public pre-schools through K-12 and on to the UA system. When we first arrived in Alaska fifty years ago, we paid both an income tax and a modest school tax. We were thrilled to be in Alaska, didn't mind the income tax, and would be willing to pay such a tax again rather than drastically weaken public education. Alaska's system of public education shows a remarkable effort to make sure that all Alaska's children receive a quality education; it is a system worth supporting. Please remember during your deliberations that Alaska is a unique place with unique opportunities and, as such, requires our local solutions to any budget problems we are facing. We should consider all ideas and solutions, but in the end, we must solve our problems in our own unique way, and weakening our public education system should not be one of them.

Thank you.

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Bob and Judy Andree
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