

**From:** [Ronald Illingworth](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Ronald in North Pole: Guns on campus is a dangerous and expensive choice for Alaska  
**Date:** Thursday, March 10, 2016 10:15:32 AM

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Dear Senate Finance Committee,

**I'm writing to urge you to vote NO on SB 174.**

This bill would force Alaska's colleges to allow guns on campus -- even though the vast majority of campus police chiefs, college presidents, students and faculty oppose it. If passed, Alaska will be one of the few states in the country with such a dangerous policy, and here's why:

Colleges have traditionally prohibited guns on campus and have been relatively safe from gun violence. But campus life is rife with other dangers -- like binge drinking and increased levels of suicide attempts -- that have devastating consequences when mixed with guns.

Not to mention, these policies come with expensive costs for increased security and insurance. In 2014, Idaho passed a guns on campus law, and as a result, five state schools had to spend over \$3.7 million to increase security in the first year alone. Last year, Texas campus carry legislation was estimated to cost six of the major universities in Texas \$59 million over six years. In Arizona, the state Board of Regents estimated that allowing guns on its three campuses would cost \$13.3 million in one-time expenses and \$3.1 million in annual operating costs.

Allowing guns on campus is a dangerous choice and an expensive one for Alaska. **It's for all of the above reasons that I respectfully urge you to vote NO on SB 174.**

Thank you,

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