

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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## **Mike Dunleavy**

*Senator*

### *Senate Bill 89 Sponsor Statement*

The purpose of SB 89 Parental Rights in Education, is to codify in state statute the inherent rights of parents to direct the upbringing and education of their children. As parents are the ultimate authority regarding their children, this bill requires local school boards to adopt policies which promote the involvement of parents.

These policies must accommodate the following:

- Parents will be given the chance to review content of any activity, class, performance standard, program, or standards-based assessment or test required by the department
- Parents can object to and withdraw children from any standards-based assessment or test required by the department, and the absence cannot be counted as unlawful
- If parents have a concern about any activity, class, performance standard, or program they can object and keep their child out of that particular activity, and the absence cannot be counted as unlawful
- Parents will be allowed to withdraw children for religious holidays, and the absence cannot be counted as unlawful
- Parents must provide written permission before children may attend each human reproduction or sex education instruction or presentation

In addition, this legislation would:

- Would prevent abortion service providers from contracting with school districts and educational service organizations
- Would prohibit abortion service providers from supplying materials to school districts on human sexuality and sexually transmitted diseases
- Restrict abortion services providers providing instruction on sexually transmitted diseases and sexuality to school districts

As the stewards of their children, parents must be guaranteed the right to make the decisions they feel are best for their children's education. I request your support for Senate Bill 89.