

Nenana City School District
PO Box 10 Nenana, AK 99760
Phone: (907) 832-5464
"A Community of Opportunity – Preparing Students for Life"

February 15, 2017

Representative Dave Talerico
State Capitol Building
Room 110
Juneau, AK, 99801

Dear Representative Talerico,

On behalf of the Nenana City School District, please accept this letter of support for House Bill 107, "An Act relating to certain fish; and establishing a fisheries enhancement permit."

The Nenana City Public School is in its 6th year of our Nenana STEM Initiative. This initiative has enhanced and will continue to enhance and grow relevant, project-based STEM opportunities for our students. We have worked with partners to provide Engineering, Biomedical, Aviation, and many other opportunities to our students, K – 12. Last year, we began conversations with yet another partner in the area of fish biology, and some local tribal experts, with a goal developing and operating a pilot fisheries project that would do exactly what this bill calls for.

HB 107 would allow for many interested parties to become involved in the business enhancing fish populations in an effort to restore salmon runs to levels that would once again allow for harvest and use among the citizens of Alaska. This would be an enhancement to life in rural Alaska. In addition, and the principle interest of the Nenana City Public School, is the educational benefit to students. HB 107 would encourage curriculum development that would meet the educational standards in Science as well as Alaska Cultural Standards, both of which are critical and of interest to many rural Alaskan students.

Since we have already begun discussions with a partner regarding this type of educational project, the Nenana City Public School would be able to gear up quickly and assist others as they begin the planning and development of their projects. The Nenana City School District fully supports HB 107 and looks forward to having a role in its early implementation.

Sincerely,



Eric Gebhart
Superintendent

"providing all students with the tools and learning environment necessary to commit to achieving success"