

From: Shannon J.N.
To: [Michelle Sydeman](#); [Rep. Bryce Edgmon](#); [Timothy Clark](#); [Ty Mase](#)
Subject: BH339
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 3:05:32 PM

Good afternoon, i am from Iliamna and i have lived in Alaska all of my young life. I have had two daughters graduate from Newhalen School and i have two more in Elementary and Middle School.

I have seen our Lake and Peninsula District save and cut with the flat funding we have received now in the past 4 years.

We have eliminated programs and then last year we had no choice but to cut school days off our school calendar. Our children

and families cannot keep doing what we are doing with the funding we are getting. I feel like we have made every active effort to save and

cut to meet our budget. I am not sure what else we can do which would not impact us in a negative manner.

I am in full support of adding \$100 to the BSA.

Thank you for your time and support.

Shannon Johnson-Nanalook
Iliamna Community Member and Mother

From: Alyse Galvin
To: [Michelle Sydeman](#)
Subject: BSA by \$100
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:00:30 AM

Dear Rep Gara and all members of the legislature,

I am writing to express support for HB287 and HB339.

HB287

It will be far more efficient AND show our communities that we respect our fiduciary responsibility in education enough to NOT hold the funding as a political football by passing HB 287. Please assure communities of the amount of dollars going to districts early. We are ALL done with the pink slip game that happens due to late decision making by lawmakers. It forces our districts to be on pins and needles and make contingency plans in case there are cuts, which makes morale drop through the floor. This leads some of our best teachers, who are allured by a better opportunity in the lower 48 to seek employment elsewhere.

This delay in decision-making causes very high recruitment costs as we continuously are trying to keep teacher positions filled in a climate that is not conducive to teachers wanting to stay. Let's avoid this by voting yes! I wonder if any legislator who doesn't vote yes on on this bill might receive a pink slip by their constituents?

I ask you to please pass these bills.

HB330

Until we see 100% reading, writing and doing math at grade levels, it is the state's responsibility to either come up with a different plan that teaches students better with less (which has not proven to work) or ensure that our teachers are getting proper training, respect and reason to stay so that our kids can learn. Each year that the BSA remains the same, there still will be some sort of cuts. Adding \$100 does not keep up with the years of flat funding but it helps 'plug the hole of a sinking boat'. Our children deserve better. We need a plan and we need to fund it well. The Alaska Education Challenge has the beginning of a plan, now we need to take the steps to implement and where funding is needed, we must fund the actions that will result in student achievement for all students.

Thanks so much,
Alyse

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Rep. Les Gara](#)
To: [Michelle Sydeman](#)
Subject: FW: BSA Increase
Date: Friday, February 9, 2018 6:28:06 PM

Representative Les Gara
Working Hard For You

Representing Downtown, Fairview, Government Hill & Eastridge
Ph: 907-465-2647 (during Legislative Session); 269-0106 (in Anchorage During Interim)

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-----Original Message-----

From: Janeen C. Wilkins [<mailto:janeenwilkins@me.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 09, 2018 6:08 PM
To: Rep. Les Gara <Rep.Les.Gara@akleg.gov>
Subject: BSA Increase

Les, as a parent and a teacher I fully support your efforts to increase the BSA. Thank you. The madness has to stop for our kids and teachers who work so hard!
Many thanks!

Janeen Wilkins
907-602-9646
Sent from my iPad

From: M. Sue McGowan
To: [Michelle Sydeman](#)
Subject: HB 339 support
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 10:46:16 AM

Hello Ms. Sydeman- I would like you to add my name to the list of people who have contacted you in support of HB 339. I have volunteered in nearly all the schools in the Juneau School District over the years and I've seen how teachers and staff are having to make do with less and less money. While the effect on school staff/teachers is important, the most important consideration are the students and the benefit they will gain if this bill is passed. Thanks for listening.

M. Sue McGowan
PO Box 32112
Juneau, Alaska 99803

(907) 789-1157



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From: Emily Kane
To: [Michelle Sydeman](#)
Subject: HB 339
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 10:52:44 AM

I strongly support this bill to bolster costs of adequately educating our youth. Thanks for your sponsorship.

Dr Emily A Kane
Juneau AK

www.DrEmilyKane.com
www.naturopathic.org
www.primarydoctor.org

Join with me in
Cultivating Exuberance

From: Judy
To: [Michelle Sydeman](#)
Subject: In Support of HB339
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 9:31:41 AM

Dear Representative Gara:

I am in support of HB 339, increasing the base student allotment for elementary and secondary education. The decline in real dollars spent on education is not good for our students, our schools, our communities, or our economy. We cannot attract business, retain residents, or advance graduates to higher education without adequate support for education at the most basic level. If we need to increase revenue to do this, there are two main sources to look: taxes on the oil industry and a graduated income tax on businesses and individuals. Shame on the legislature for postponing the inevitable until our state's economy is sent into a tailspin!

Judy Crondahl
Juneau

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From: Cat Coward
To: [Michelle Sydeman](#)
Subject: In support of HB339
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 9:12:20 AM

Dear Representative Gara,

I am writing you to thank you for putting forth HB339, and echoing my own support of this bill. Keeping reliable money in the classroom is paramount to a good education for our kids. I am the parent of a high school senior, and over the course of his education I have seen the effects of BSA money being cut. I have seen class sizes decrease, important teachers and counselors laid off, teachers burned out and fearing yearly lay off, and an overall decrease in the quality of public education because of the above factors.

Quality education requires, adequate and reliable funding of the BSA; funding for our teachers and counselors. Please use this email as my public testimony and support of HB339.

Thank you,
Catherine Coward
6221 Farpoint Dr,
Anchorage, AK 99507

From: Shonti Elder
To: [Michelle Sydeman](#)
Subject: to Les Gara
Date: Sunday, February 11, 2018 7:46:25 PM

I'm a teacher who lives in Wasilla and I support Les Gara's education funding bill. The base student allocation needs to be raised throughout Alaska. Increased school costs (such as energy, or health insurance) have eaten into the actual funding that reaches each student, stressing students and teachers who have to make do with less. Thank you.