

**From:** [Sen. Anna MacKinnon](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** FW: In support of HB287  
**Date:** Monday, February 12, 2018 9:33:59 AM

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

From: Cat Coward [<mailto:scatycaty@gmail.com>]

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 9:29 AM

To: Sen. Anna MacKinnon <Sen.Anna.MacKinnon@akleg.gov>; Sen. Lyman Hoffman <Sen.Lyman.Hoffman@akleg.gov>; Sen. Click Bishop <Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov>; Sen. Pete Kelly <Sen.Pete.Kelly@akleg.gov>; Sen. Peter Micciche <Sen.Peter.Micciche@akleg.gov>; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof <Sen.Natasha.VonImhof@akleg.gov>; Sen. Donny Olson <Sen.Donny.Olson@akleg.gov>; Sen. Gary Stevens <Sen.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov>; Sen. Cathy Giessel <Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov>

Subject: In support of HB287

Dear Senator Giessel and members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing in support of HB287, which recently passed the House and is, apparently, soon to be up in the Senate for consideration.

I am the parent of a high school senior, and over the course of his education I have seen the effects of education funding 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. Both pink slips and a fear of pink slips have a huge negative impact on the morale of teachers and other staff, as well as on parents and students. It is neither efficient nor effective to run the business of public education (and it is, in all effects, a business) with uncertain upcoming budgets. It is neither effective nor efficient for local municipalities to be unable to plan how they will support their schools with uncertain upcoming budgets.

I am heartened that HB 287 will provide funding for K-12 in 2018-2019 at the same levels as 2017-2018. Though this still means a cut in education funding due to the increase in annual costs and expenses, it is a least a start.

Please support HB287.

Thank you,  
Catherine Coward  
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