From: Karli Tyance
To: Sen. Anna MacKinnon

Subject: Education Tax Credit Program - PLEASE EXTEND

**Date:** Sunday, April 29, 2018 8:28:37 PM

Dear Senator Mackinnon,

The Education Tax Credit program provides funding to educational institutions for students and faculty to enhance their capacity to conduct research. Alaska Pacific University and the Alaska Native Village of Nanwalek have an ongoing partnership through collaboration to study the local decline in Sockeye Salmon in the English Bay Lakes system through both Traditional Ecological Knowledge and innovative scientific methods. The community relies on the harvest of Sockeye Salmon for both subsistence and economic purposes; therefore, this research is paramount to the longevity and prosperity of the community. In addition to supporting research education, the Education Tax Credit provides opportunities for student tuition support such that Nanwalek residents have increased opportunities to strength community technical knowledge and further develop skills and capacity to support our local workforce.

Please <u>pass HB233</u> to extend the ETC program as it plays a critical part to the education and research in Alaska fisheries. <u>Do not change the credit schedule</u> as this will reduce the efficacy of the program and investment into research and education related to Alaska's fisheries.

Without these funds, such applied educational opportunities, and the consequent benefits to Alaskan communities, would be financially prohibitive and unavailable to students. I strongly urge you to reconsider the proposed amendments to the education tax credit program.

Sincerely,

## Karli Tyance Hassell

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