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Alaska Council of School Administrators

February 18, 2020

The Honorable Representative Andi Story  
Alaska State Legislature  
Capital Building, Rm 403  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Story,

The Alaska Council of School Administrators (ACSA) offers its support for HB 155, “an act relating to eligibility for the Alaska performance scholarship program.” We recognize the important role Career and Technical Education (CTE) plays in student learning and applaud your effort to expand eligibility requirements for students who wish to continue their education through the Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS).

ACSA’s purpose is to provide a voice that champions possibilities for **all** students, including those interested in pursuing apprenticeships and other postsecondary training opportunities. We have continually prioritized CTE in our annual [Joint Position Statements](#) (attached), because we recognize the valuable skills and opportunities it offers students. Students concentrated in CTE programs are more likely to graduate and see higher career earnings than their peers who focused on academic courses but did not obtain a college degree.

Data from 2018 shows that economically disadvantaged students from low income households as well as students from rural communities are more likely to enroll in CTE courses. For these students, HB 155 provides a critical opportunity to build future-ready skills.

This legislation would benefit students across the state and strengthen Alaska’s economic growth and stability. We are eager to support this policy and work together to advance these shared goals.

Thank you for your commitment to improving public education for all students in Alaska. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Robin Jones  
President