

STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

2008

Source

SCS CSHCR 13(FIN) am S

**Legislative
Resolve No.**

62



Establishing and relating to the Education Funding District Cost Factor Commission.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS, under art. VII, sec. 1, Constitution of the State of Alaska, a system of public schools is required to be established and maintained; and

WHEREAS the cost of providing adequate public education for children living in the state varies significantly among geographic areas of the state; and

WHEREAS accurately measuring relative cost differences is integral to equitable funding for education across geographic areas; and

WHEREAS the cost differentials have been a recurring policy issue since the current funding formula was adopted in 1998; and

WHEREAS the findings of economic analyses conducted in 1983 - 1985, 1999, 2002, and 2004 have raised questions and controversy within the Alaska State Legislature; and

WHEREAS previous determinations of cost differentials have been static and, consequently, have become outdated;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Education Funding

District Cost Factor Commission is established on January 20, 2009, for the purpose of examining school district cost differentials and creating a valid and durable model that can be updated to accurately reflect the costs of providing education; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission may enter into contracts for research services, consulting services, or expert advice to assist the commission in creating a valid and durable model; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission consists of 11 members as follows:

- (1) five shall be from the senate appointed by the president of the senate;
- (2) five shall be from the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and
- (3) one shall be appointed by the governor; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall jointly appoint the chair and vice-chair of the commission; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that a commission member is subject to reappointment or replacement if either the president of the senate or speaker of the house of representatives is replaced and the member was appointed by the former president or speaker; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission may submit a preliminary report of its findings and a draft model to the governor and the legislature before September 30, 2010; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall submit a report of its findings and proposed legislative changes to the governor and the legislature by September 30, 2010, and may make any additional reports it considers advisable; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Education Funding District Cost Factor Commission is terminated on April 1, 2011.