

**HB 152 Written Testimony**

Rec'd 2-26-26

**Stuart Relay**

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**From:** Cheryl & Mark Lovegreen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 25, 2026 4:07 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear State Affairs Committee,

I support HB 152, the education tax. As you know, our public school districts are in crisis. A designated education tax is an important step to stabilize their funding. The sooner we act, the better our school boards can plan and come up with the best budgets for future programs.

Thanks for your time,

Cheryl

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** William Dann [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 19, 2026 5:42 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Education Tax

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

We support.

William Dann  
Jenny Alowa  
[REDACTED]  
Anchorage  
Sent from my iPad

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Celia Foley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 18, 2026 7:22 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I am in favor of a special income tax to fund Alaskan education despite the fact that our household would be responsible for more than other people in Alaska. The reasons have been well described in [https://www.akleg.gov/basis/get\\_documents.asp?session=34&docid=6256](https://www.akleg.gov/basis/get_documents.asp?session=34&docid=6256)

Thank you.

Celia Foley

[REDACTED]  
Anchorage, Alaska  
99517-1028

[REDACTED]

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Halle E [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 18, 2026 11:08 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Re: HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Alaska Legislature,

I am writing to express my support for HB 152. As an Anchorage resident, I see the application of an income tax, primarily targeting high-income earners, benefiting the state greatly. This would minimize the potential budget shortfall and return revenue to the state to fund education and other necessary services.

While this requires taxation in Alaska, I see this money going back into the community essential for further prosperity.

Thanks for taking this request into consideration.

Sincerely,

Halle Evans  
Anchorage, AK 99502

On Tue, Feb 17, 2026 at 1:44 PM Halle E <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Alaska Legislature,

I am writing to express my support for HB 152. As an Anchorage resident, I see the application of a sales tax, primarily targeting high-income earners, benefiting the state greatly. This would minimize the potential budget shortfall and return revenue to the state to fund education and other necessary services.

While this requires taxation in Alaska, I see this money going back into the community essential for further prosperity.

Thanks for taking this request into consideration.

Sincerely,

Halle Evans  
Anchorage, AK 99502

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Misty Nelson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 3:48 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

My name is Misty Nelson and I am a 17 year veteran Alaskan educator. That means I am also a Tier 3 employee, no pension and no paying into social security.

Last spring, my position as a librarian was chopped. It was a Feb-May horrendous process of what my 17 year as an educator in the district would look like.

Last fall my school was on the chopping block for closure. We ended up staying open (6-1 vote), and had a nice two month break from this sort of stress.

Now, our school is back on the closure list, My position may or may not exist next year, my school may not exist next year, and the dedication I've given to this field, investing in my expertise, feels completely devalued and disrespectful.

We have got to adequately fund education in Alaska. We already have an educator shortage in our state, and the problem doesn't seem to be getting better. This lack of stability and the insane uncertainty every year are causing undue stress to current employees.

If we don't fund education, we are going to lose. There is nothing good about an uneducated population. If the state of Alaska does not prioritize education, there will be no quality teachers left.

This toying with our jobs each year is such an abusive relationship. We need to do better.

I love teaching. I knew I was going to be a teacher from an early age. I have invested in my profession, and I have given a solid 17 years to the children of Alaska.

Living with this stress each year is not good for educators, schools, or students.

We need to do better.

Please, please put the kids first. Do the right thing.

Sincerely,  
Misty Nelson

#educationtax #akleg

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Kari Skinner [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 2:58 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Alternative revenue bill for education

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear State representatives,

I am writing to you in support of increased funding for public schools. Anchorage schools have been operating with a deficit.

Strong public education is vital to a vibrant community and functional economy. It's an important aspect to our communities such as infrastructure, public services and public safety.

Please prioritize public education.

Once we have fully and sufficiently funded public education for all Alaskan communities, only then should we look at providing education alternatives for those who don't believe in public education for all.

Thank you,  
Kari Skinner

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Ariel Mangelsdorf [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 2:55 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Written Testimony on HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Members of the House State Affairs Committee,

My name is Ariel Mangelsdorf, and I am writing to offer public testimony supporting House Bill 152.

I have been an educator since 2013, a mother of three young children, a parent of an Anchorage School District student, and a proud product of both ASD and the University of Alaska Anchorage. Alaska's public education system has shaped my life at every stage -as a student, as a professional, and now as a parent.

Through my work in early childhood education, I see firsthand how critical stable, predictable education funding is for children and families. Strong early learning experiences are not optional; they are foundational to long-term academic success, workforce readiness, and community well-being. When schools face ongoing uncertainty, it directly impacts staffing, programming, class sizes, and the support services that children rely on - especially our youngest learners.

As a parent, I want to know that my children will attend schools that are adequately resourced, staffed by supported educators, and able to plan beyond year-to-year survival. As an educator, I know that consistency and stability are essential for high-quality instruction and retention of experienced professionals. As someone who benefited from Alaska's public education system myself, I believe we have a responsibility to protect and strengthen it for the next generation.

I appreciate the intent of HB 152 to create a dedicated revenue stream that supports education and provides long-term stability for Alaska's schools. Thoughtful, sustainable funding solutions are necessary if we want to move beyond crisis-driven decision-making and toward a system that truly serves students, families, and educators.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective and for your continued work on behalf of Alaska's children and communities.

Respectfully,

Ariel Mangelsdorf

Educator | Parent | ASD & UAA Graduate

Anchorage, Alaska

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Ann Knobbe [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 2:54 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Support HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I live in Palmer for 38 years and Alaska for 48 years. I realized 3 children in the Valley schools. It is important to Alaska's future to educate our children.

I ask you to please support the Education Bill, HR 152. The children of our state are in dire need of adequate funding to support great schools. It is a travesty how the governor and parts of the legislature have neglected to do their job in making sure our children have the best education. I support our schools and I urge you to do the same.

Vote for HB 152.  
Sincerely,

Ann M Knobbe  
[REDACTED]  
Palmer, AK 99634  
Sent from my iPad

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** B Carlson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 2:45 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Cc:** Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Scott Kawasaki; Sen. Matt Claman; Mia Costello  
**Subject:** HB 152: ALT REV BILL FOR EDU-Support & comments

**Importance:** High

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Honorable Chair Ashley Carrick; Vice Chair Andi Story; and Representatives Rebecca Himschoot; Ky Holland; Sarah Vance; Kevin McCabe; and Steve St. Clair:

Thank you for taking up this important matter in the Standing Committee at this critical juncture. We write in strong support of HB 152. This is an important discussion and a solid and fair way to increase the critically needed revenue to support education in a method that is sustainable over the long term. It is desperately discouraging to see families continuing to leave Alaska due to the lack of funding to build and uphold schools of excellence and to keep experienced and excellent teachers and staff. People argued that a sales tax would unfairly hurt the population with lower incomes. This plan distributes the burden of the taxes fairly among workers and businesses according to how much money they make. It shares the burden, as at least 39 other states do, with Non-Residents who enjoy our services and infrastructure. We wonder if the \$150 head tax for the poorest citizens making very low wages might be an unreasonable cost and ask that this be further discussed if it has not already taken place.

We think that well timed Public Service Announcements with clear education to the public explaining how this can help the people of Alaska will be important. It is obvious that many citizens, and some lawmakers, do not understand that someone has to pay for the infrastructure of the places we live; that the things we want, like well maintained schools, teachers, nurses, counselors do not appear out of thin air. If we do not find ways to pay for the costs of living here and raising an educated and mentally healthy citizenry, Alaska will stagnate with people continuing to move away, and businesses closing or leaving the state. It does not have to be that way. Alaska was once a place of boundless opportunity and with a sturdy support for education, we can put ourselves back on that road, and be known as a land of great promise not only for the near future, but also for future generations.

Thank you, again, for taking up this critically important bill! This is a win/win. Of course businesses and individuals who make money from Alaska should help pay their fair shares!

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Carlson  
Michael P. Carlson

Barbara and Michael Carlson  
[REDACTED]  
Anchorage, AK 99502

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** andrea cordano [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 2:21 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

An income tax is a a fair and responsible way to support education in our state.

Thank you Representative Galvin for a thoughtful and fair solutuion.

Andrea Cordano  
[REDACTED]  
Anchorage 99517

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Val Byrnes <V [REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 2:18 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** hb152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

We want HB 152 to pass to fulfill our duty to our children and state and adequately fund education!

Thank you!

Valerie Byrnes

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## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Jacqui Elton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 1:59 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi,  
my name is Jacqui Elton and I am writing you in support for HB 152. The school districts in our great state have been woefully underfunded for well over a decade, and the time to solidify their funds is now. I am imploring the house to do their duty. Without a thriving education system our population will continue to decline and we will see costs rise due to inaccessibility. Stand up for the children who deserve educations, and the best we can offer, which is very little right now due to the lack of funding received from a federal and local government levels  
thank you for your time  
Jacqui

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Halle E [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 1:44 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Alaska Legislature,

I am writing to express my support for HB 152. As an Anchorage resident, I see the application of a sales tax, primarily targeting high-income earners, benefiting the state greatly. This would minimize the potential budget shortfall and return revenue to the state to fund education and other necessary services.

While this requires taxation in Alaska, I see this money going back into the community essential for further prosperity.

Thanks for taking this request into consideration.

Sincerely,

Halle Evans  
Anchorage, AK 99502

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Bridget Paule [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 1:40 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** In support of HB 152 Education Tax

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I'm writing to encourage you to support HB 152, the establishment of a state income tax to support education. It is time to develop a source of state revenue that is consistent and independent of both the oil markets and the PFD. HB 152 lays out a reasonable income tax model that shares the burden on funding our education system across all Alaskans, with those can afford to do so, paying more. Public education is an essential foundation of a solid and functioning state and I hope you will help advance it by moving this bill to the floor for further discussion.

thank you,

Bridget Paule  
[REDACTED]  
Anchorage, AK

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on Dena'ina Etnena

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Lia Slemons [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 12:18 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs; Rep. Calvin Schrage  
**Subject:** HB 152 to allow for sustainable school budgeting

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Honorable House State Affairs Committee,

We are early in the legislative session, but the Anchorage School Districts, and many across the state, have already had to propose their budgets for the 26-27 school year. HB 152 is a pragmatic way for districts to plan for educational investments, prioritize, and maintain programs by providing a funding supply that responds to economic change and, indirectly, the cost of living. I am in support of almost any way to bring in education funding, and HB 152 makes sense for many reasons.

Here (and across the state) the outlook for schools and Alaska's future workforce and citizenry is bleak. School funding had a partial closing of the inflation-driven gap last year, but costs continue to rise, and district savings are depleted. I am very concerned about the probable loss of the middle school model (middle school teachers are losing collaborative planning time), increasing class sizes, loss of middle school sports, loss of dedicated school nurses, loss of beloved high school sports (it hurts to lose xc skiing in Anchorage high schools!), loss of elementary music/art teaching, loss of IGNITE, and overall loss of staff!

Alaskan schools continue to struggle with chronic absenteeism post-COVID and we are eroding some of the motivation and removing contact points for students to attend, participate in, and thrive at our schools. This is a really critical time. As a resident, and emotionally as a parent, I believe school funding is the number one priority for the state this year. I volunteer a lot of time in my children's elementary and middle schools, and I work as a paid substitute teacher in high school science classes. I see firsthand the difference class size and experienced teachers make and I know we stand to lose so much value if education funding is not restored as soon as possible.

Best,  
Lia Slemons  
resident, Jupiter Dr. Anchorage

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Daniel Billman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 12:07 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB 152 and other revenue proposals

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I support HB 152 as part of revamping revenue generation in the State.

We have great needs in Alaska - funding education, maintaining roads, paying for health care, and more - and the State needs additional revenue to do this. This bill is a step in the right direction. We also need to generate revenue with a state income tax, a tax on internet purchases, a small sales tax, and revisiting mineral lease payments. All revenue generation should be wide spread and modest so everyone contributes to the State's fiscal well being according to their means.

I urge you to support these measures so Alaska can have a clear and equitable fiscal path forward.

Than you  
Daniel Billman  
[REDACTED]  
Anchorage, Alaska

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Christine Niemi <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 10:54 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Support for HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

### Committee Members:

Please support HB 152 which will provide much needed funding for the education of Alaska's children, our most valuable resource. This legislation is fair in that every person who has an income from working in Alaska would pay a flat tax of \$150. Years ago, I paid a yearly flat tax to support education in Alaska, money well spent & not a burden. High income earners would pay a graduated rate which is also fair because those fortunate enough to secure well paying jobs are not burdened to fund our most valuable resource. Our children deserve & need HB 152.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Niemi  
Douglas, Alaska

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Nick Bruckner [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 10:52 AM  
**To:** Rep. Jamie Allard  
**Cc:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Eagle River Constituent

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Representative Allard and Committee,

I live near Ravenwood Elementary School in Eagle River with my family and we have two kids at Eagle Academy and one at Ravenwood. I am very concerned with growing class sizes at Ravenwood and specifically with the schools not having enough funding to pay for a school nurse at each school, as well as kids' sports and other activities being cut. Our kids are very active in Junior NYO, wrestling, soccer and basketball and other clubs.

I've spoken with several neighbors, family and friends, folks at church who all live in Eagle River who are concerned with the perpetual funding crisis of public education. Please do what you can to address this funding shortfall. I appreciate your efforts on behalf of the children of Eagle River. Feel free to call me if you'd like to discuss further at your convenience.

Respectfully,

**Nick Bruckner: B.A., M.Div.**

Real Broker - Vested Alaska

AK License #198841  
[REDACTED]

Office: 405 W. 36th Ave Suite 214



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## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Amanda Adney [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 10:23 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Cc:** Rep. Ky Holland; Ayden Nichol  
**Subject:** Support HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Members of the House State Affairs Committee,

My name is Amanda Adney, and I am a School Nurse in the Anchorage School District. I am writing to you today in **support for HB 152** & the proposed sales tax aimed at increasing funding for our state's education system.

As a healthcare professional on the front lines of our schools, I see firsthand the critical role that consistent, accessible medical care plays in a student's ability to learn and succeed. Unfortunately, due to their \$90 million dollar deficit, the Anchorage School District is currently proposing to cut 25 nursing positions. Additionally, ASD is proposing a shift from our current model of one full-time nurse per building to a "regional model".

ASD's proposal is a six region model (Central, Eagle River, East, North, West, South), with 12-14 schools per region and 9-11 nurses per region. Under this proposal, one nurse would be responsible for two to three different schools. During the week, there would be 1-2 days the School Nurse is not present due to being at another school. While I understand the financial pressures facing ASD, this model raises serious concerns about student safety, health equity, and emergency preparedness.

The implementation of a regional model would significantly compromise student safety and well-being. School nurses do far more than administer first aid; we manage complex chronic conditions like type 1 diabetes and severe allergies, coordinate mental health resources, and provide a vital safety net for our most vulnerable students. Dividing a nurse's time across multiple school campuses means delayed response times during emergencies and a loss of the proactive, relationship-based care that keeps our students healthy and in the classroom.

Investing in education through this sales tax is not just about books and buildings—it is about maintaining the essential health services that allow our children to thrive. I ask that you prioritize the health and safety of Alaska's students by supporting this funding measure and protecting the "one school, one nurse" model.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our state.

Sincerely,

Amanda Adney

School Nurse

Rilke Schule German Immersion School

Cell: [REDACTED]

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Deborah Ward [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 10:10 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to express my support for HB 152, the Education Tax Bill. This bill appears to be an equitable and effective way to increase revenue for our schools, which are in dire need of financial support. HB 152 is reminiscent of the education tax of the late seventies. There are so many non-resident workers in our state, who do not contribute financially to support the infrastructure and services of Alaska. A revenue stream from this group would help mitigate their impact. A very modest income tax on the wealthiest wage-earners would provide additional funding for education with minor impact to those residents. Our schools are in crisis and need to be rescued. Our once world-class education system has fallen to the bottom of the pack in the past 15-20 years. The time to act is now. Alaska will never attract new businesses and industries with education being such a low priority in our state. Strong public education is the backbone of every successful state economy. At this time, Alaska is failing. Please do something to turn around this sad state of affairs. For the Children; for Alaska.

Sincerely,

Deb Ward  
Anchorage, AK  
[REDACTED]

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Eric Olsen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 9:52 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** The most moral tax

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Yes, an income tax of some kind. Please. Not a state sales tax!  
Thanks so much Sara for your intelligent leadership!

Vicki Bassett  
Juneau

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Patty Friend [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 8:47 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please support HB 152. We must move to an equitable taxation program to support education and other essential services.

Respectfully,  
Patty Friend

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Christy McMurren [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 8:33 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Income Tax

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I'm writing you to say that I'm in favor of an income tax. For the over 40 yrs I've lived in Alaska, I have heard that we need to prepare for the time when oil prices are way down or there is not much oil left. And for forty years, I don't see that there has been any diversification of industry. Alaska is falling apart. So, if you are in favor of taking Alaska off life support, then continue to ignore all the economic facts. If you want Alaska to live again, then we have to pay for it. As many of you like to say, there's no free lunch.

Christy McMurren  
Anchorage

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Joan Diamond [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 8:13 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs; Rep. Ky Holland  
**Subject:** Support Ed tax

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Public Education is our greatest investment in our children if we expect the next generation to grow our state economy. When I arrived in Alaska in 1971 we had an \$10 Education tax paid by all of us. We need to resurrect an education tax again that helps meet the cost for the 21 century.

Some Alaskans will complain that they do not have children in public school and do not want to contribute. Yet most of these people attended public education in their childhood that was paid for by someone else.

We need to get our public education back on par with what it was when my children attended K-12 in Anchorage.

Joan Diamond  
Anchorage

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Irene Bortnick [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 6:41 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs; Alyse Galvin  
**Subject:** Support for HB152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please support HB152. Our schools are in dire straits. Our children deserve and have the right to a good education in school buildings that are safe and sound. When my husband and I moved to Alaska in 1984 with 2 young children, the future of Alaska was bright with promise. We doubled our family and first I and then my husband taught in Anchorage public schools. We were paid well and knew that when we retired we would have a pension. By the end of my 20 years in ASD, my salary had not kept up with inflation and younger teachers were no longer sticking around.

HB152 is a fair bill to increase revenue. A \$150 head tax on wage earners is not burdensome but gives everyone a stake in supporting education, from which we all benefit.

You know the story as well as I do so I will stop here. Please invest in our children and pass HB152.

Sincerely,  
Irene Bortnick

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Rob Cone-Clark [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 5:54 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB152 Public Testimony

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello House State Affairs Committee,

Thank you for accepting my testimony. I am in opposition of HB152.

The SOA already owns the entire natural resource estate within its political jurisdiction. HB1452 proposes they now have a claim on the products of my labor as well.

This is a step too far.

Thank you,

Rob Cone-Clark  
[REDACTED]  
Anchorage, AK 995085

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Grace Schultz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 10:52 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Support for HB152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

As a new teacher at a title 1 high school in Alaska's largest district, I strongly support HB152. Alaskans deserve investing in.

Tax me!  
Grace Schultz

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Laurie Montano [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 10:23 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Cc:** Rep. Ky Holland  
**Subject:** Education tax - HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear members of the House State Affairs Committee,

I am writing in my support of HB 152, an income tax to fund education. I am writing as a concerned mom, pediatrician, and Anchorage resident. I was raised in Fairbanks during the golden years of Alaska's public education and it makes me sad to see our schools crumbling and closing, our fantastic teachers leaving in droves, our students failing, and families leaving the state in search of better options for education for their kids. Our schools have been starving and been asked to do more with less for way too long. I welcome a tax to better fund our schools, give teachers the pay they deserve, bring back the sports, the gifted programs, the music and art classes. Good schools are economic drivers, they bring people to the state. They keep a community healthy and thriving. They keep kids mentally and physically healthy and engaged.

Thank you for the opportunity to give my testimony.

Sincerely,

Laurie Montano, MD  
Alaska Internal Medicine and Pediatrics  
Clinical Faculty, University of Washington School of Medicine

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Rachel Samuelson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 10:14 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs; Rep. Carolyn Hall  
**Subject:** Support HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello Rep Hall and all Representatives,

I am writing in support of HB 152 for funding our schools. Please support this! I say this as a high income earner who will be taxed more to support education. That is ok! The current school budget for the Anchorage School District is apocalyptic in the education for our kids, and for keeping families in Alaska.

Thank you for the creativity in this bill and for supporting our kids and Alaskans in general.

Sincerely,

Rachel Samuelson  
Anchorage, AK 99502

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Laura Stats [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 10:00 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Cc:** Rep. Sara Hannan; Rep. Andi Story; Sen. Jesse Kiehl  
**Subject:** Support HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Members State Affairs Committee,

Let's begin this letter with a quote from Nelson Mandela-“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

With that in mind, I strongly urge you to vote yes for HB 152. I am for the creative process this bill offers to solve the problem of funding education. Funding education is a primary responsibility of the AK Legislature. It is quite apparent schools across the state are having great difficulties and are in need of increased funding. Layoffs, large class sizes, deferred maintenance and down sizing in areas of special needs, art and music teachers are only some of the problems.

It is well understood education is one of the cornerstones to a successful democracy. We need bright youngsters that grow into adults with good problem solving and critical thinking skills.

Key components of a good education is honoring good student- teacher ratios, paying teachers competitive wages with a competitive pensions and healthcare packages to both retain and attract teachers in our state.

This would be possible by enacting an HB 152 and structuring an income tax that specifically funds 'education only.' The content of this bill makes it affordable for Alaskans who are in different income brackets. Let's use this tool and start funding education as it should be. This would also potentially free up money to be used to support other agencies in the state because this bill would pay for education funding.

I encourage this committee to fully support this bill.

Thank you,  
Laura Stats  
Juneau  
[REDACTED]

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 9:56 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Note: Previously sent to each individual committee member. Now being sent to committee of the whole email so as to enter our comment into official bill testimony. Thank you,

Feb. 14, 2026

State Affairs Committee Chairwoman Carrick, Vice Chairwoman Story, and fellow members Himschoot, Holland, Vance, McCabe, and St. Clair,

We STRONGLY oppose HB 152 scheduled to be heard in committee on Feb, 17, 2026.

The last state legislative session left Alaskans with a much lower PFD and zero educational accountability on the additional windfall handed over to Alaska's public education system.

Now the Democrats want an additional \$150 school head tax and 4% school income tax on residents and non-resident Alaska earners making over a \$150,000 single/\$300,000 joint income. They claim Alaska's public education is woefully underfunded despite more taxpayer dollars being fed into it repeatedly with little increase in student performance to show for it.

To have a public hearing by "invitation only" is completely suspect. If legislators honestly believe this bill is a good idea they would welcome a public hearing with no censoring of those wanting to speak for/against the bill.

As the "public" hearing is invitation only we request the contents(minus any private identifying information) of this email be entered into public record in OPPOSITION of HB 152.

Jennifer and Keith Lorensen/Homer, AK

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Amanda Faith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 9:42 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs; Rep. Ky Holland; Rep. Carolyn Hall  
**Subject:** Testimony HB

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Ky,

I am strongly opposed to this as it offers no accountability to the districts in how they spend the money. Everyday I see in my classroom how simply giving the district more money doesn't affect good outcomes for the kids. This bill also does not offer property tax relief. I would like to see more creative solutions, like empowering students and parents to be in charge of education spending, like they can with the federal Education Tax Credit.

Kind regards,  
Amanda Thompson

**AGENT OF CREATIVE CHANGE**  
[LinkedIn](#) • [Etsy shop](#) • [Online Gallery](#) • [Instagram](#)

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** David Rurik [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 9:27 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Cc:** Ayden Nichol; Rep. Ky Holland  
**Subject:** Support of HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I live in 99516 and support the proposed bill, HB 152.

We have a constitutional responsibility to the PUBLIC education of our kids. We have an obligation to figure out how to fund it and this seems to be a reasonable proposal.

Educators work incredibly hard to provide the best they can for our students, relieving them of the mental burden of unknown education finances is very important. We should be supporting educators statewide as they work with the next generation of Alaskans.

Most of all, students statewide deserve to have good and equal opportunities, regardless of their home, ability or outside opportunities. I believe arts, music, athletics and a good selection of extracurriculars are imperative for students to thrive as whole beings - ready for the world.

Thanks,

--

David Rurik  
(253) 514-3909  
Anchorage, AK

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Marguerite Leeds [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 9:24 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs; Rep. Ky Holland  
**Subject:** Income tax for educational funding - hb 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good evening,

I am writing to say that I support having an income tax for the purpose of maintaining educational services and preventing planned disruption to educational programs for preschool, k-12, and higher education.

Thank you for considering avenues to fund education without cuts.

Sincerely,  
Marguerite Leeds  
Girdwood, AK

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Eva [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 9:03 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi,

I'm writing to support House Bill 152. This bill would keep more money in our local economy, which can fund education. Strong local economies and strong education keep people in our communities.

Best,  
Eva White

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 8:24 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB 152 - Tax for Education

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Our state needs income and I strongly support this bill. In many ways it is brilliant. It is broad based, easy to understand, and has minimal cost to administer. It will bring in income from the quarter of our workforce that lives out of state and from S corporations that currently are avoiding taxes. Higher income payers can also deduct a portion of it from their federal taxes.

Lots to like.

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Susan Reed [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 5:24 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB152 Education tax bill

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I was so encouraged to read the summary info about a proposed education tax bill. We r on the edge of a terrible abyss re our public schools. Our state constitution includes language that public ed support is a requirement. after many years of underfunding, cuts, vetos of bipartisan bills to do desperately needed repairs & facility maintenance (ex. Mt Edgecumbe in the news & so much more) it's time to be visionary & view a new way to provided dedicated revenue to the public schools.

i am a graduate of an Anchorage high school & am also a retired ASD music teacher (27 years). i received a quality education that included the arts & fueled my passion for history. I am heartbroken to think that students will not have the quality programs that they deserve. our families deserve good public schools. Every kid counts - in a village, or town, or city.

This is an emergency. This bill makes sense. an income tax is much more fair as proposed (sales taxes would affect the poor & struggling families far more negatively.) we have had so much for so long due to the pfd - & it's important to keep a pfd. but it's also time to address the lack of revenue to fund basic education. give us ownership. This bill is a good start.

tax the oil companies. they don't stop doing business here if a reasonable tax is implemented. and out of state workers should also pay something to support our state.

please please address this as an emergency. the catastrophic cuts being proposed all over Alaska will have a devastating impact on every community. It's time to stand up for our children & our future. Please.

Susan Reed  
[REDACTED]  
Anchorage, AK. 99508  
[REDACTED]

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 4:39 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Committee Members,

Please consider this email as my testimony for supporting HB 152. This bill will generate hundreds of millions of dollars of state revenue. A head tax of \$150.00 holds all Alaskans accountable for paying for services. HB 152 shifts the burden of income taxes to the high income earners. It will also tax out of state residents for income earned within the state. A substantial amount of income is earned by out of state residents, with that income leaving the state. Out of state workers benefit from our infrastructure, i.e., roads, airports without contributing to the upkeep. Also, this bill will require S Corporations to pay their fair share.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony. Our state is in desperate need of revenue. Our schools and infrastructure are suffering. HB 152 is an equitable way to raise revenue.

Most sincerely,  
Karen Murdock

[REDACTED]  
Homer, AK 99603  
[REDACTED]

Proud to have been an Alaskan since 1979

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Rose Van Hemert [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 4:38 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Pass the education tax bill, please.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Colleen M Bolling [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 2:49 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs; Sen. Matt Claman; Rep. Mia Costello  
**Subject:** I support HB 152 to help fund education

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon,

I am writing to express my support for HB 152 to raise revenue to support public education in Alaska. Our current system is failing our students, our district employees, and our state as a whole. Alaska has underfunded education for far too long, and it is time to find some real solutions to bring in funds to go towards quality public education.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Colleen Bolling

[REDACTED] Anchorage, AK 99515

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Nina Faust [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 1:50 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Cc:** Sen. Gary Stevens  
**Subject:** HB 152 Education Tax

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[REDACTED]  
Homer AK 99603

February 16, 2026

### RE: **House Bill 152, Education Tax**

Overall, I support this bill. When I came to the state, there was a flat Education Tax that we paid to finance the public school system. A high-quality, public school system is important to attract people to live in the state and to retain them. Providing quality schools is not only a constitutional requirement, it is also important in attracting good teachers and keeping them.

One thing I did not see in the bill, unless I overlooked it, people who are earning less than the minimum considered to be poverty level should be exempt from the tax. Making enough money to live on is hard enough in today's economy, but every penny counts to people who are below the poverty level. Let's not burden them with any more.

Please pass HB 152.

Respectfully,

Nina Faust

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Sarah Holmgrain [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 12:38 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this email as my support for HB152. I have served on Petersburg's local board of education for over 15 years. I have seen the direct impact of funding failing to keep up with inflation, forcing our District and many others to make cuts that directly affect instruction and learning. It is imperative that the State fully funds education and inflation-proof the funding, much like other departments.

I also own a small business in Petersburg that is an S-Corp. This bill will subject me to a new tax and if that is what is needed to help fund education statewide, I'm prepared to pay it. Do not let that deter you from moving forward with HB152.

Sincerely,

Sarah Pawuk Holmgrain ,Broker/Owner  
Petersburg Properties, LLC  
Petersburg Board of Education, President  
[REDACTED]

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## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Judy Green [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 12:34 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Education Tax Bill

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Alaska Legislators,

I am in favor of the Education Tax Bill. Our schools have been underfunded for far too long and it is affecting the quality of our children's education. They are our most important resource and we need to make sure our schools have the resources to provide them with quality teachers and the resources needed to help those who have fallen behind. I have a granddaughter with dyslexia and she has been unable to get the individual help she needs in school. Luckily her parents have paid for tutors and therapists to help her achieve success but we know the school should be able to provide this for her. My daughter is also a teacher and sees that her daughters school is overwhelmed by the learning needs of students so she decided not to press the issue but what about the students whose parents don't have the ability or resources to help their kids outside of school?

Also, as you know, many people work in Alaska and live in another state. It is time to tax that income. I am also willing to pay an "Education Tax" as was in effect until the late 70's. Our districts need to be able to plan ahead and know how much money they will receive. Forward funding has been discussed for too many years without implementation. It is time to fix it!

Thank you!

Judith Green

[REDACTED]  
Anchorage 99501  
Sent from my iPhone

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Judith Burtner [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 11:59 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** House Bill 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I'm writing to you in support of HB 152. I am opposed to a state sales tax. We have long needed a bill which places responsibility on all earners who work in our state. We all need to have some "skin in the game," helping our state function properly. This progressive tax House bill 152 would distribute contributions fairly, even assuring that those who work in our state but do not live here contribute. It is time we all took responsibility for educating our children and assuring our state's solvency.

Judith Burtner  
[REDACTED]  
Anchorage voter

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Barbara Parker <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 11:57 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I like this proposal, for all of the listed reasons. Let's get ready to override the impending veto. Education is certainly one major area that does not 'need' wild unpredictable fluctuations every year! (Of course that problem does apply to many budget areas.). Harold Parker, Chugiak

Sent from my iPad

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Tom Anderson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 11:54 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** NO to New Taxes!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good Morning:

It is time our lawmakers stop caving to the endless financial demands of Alaska's educational lobby. In Anchorage alone, our school age population has declined by around 7,000 students- yet their demands for more Alaskan money only get louder.

The people of Alaska are not an endless source of cash to keep funding one of the least successful educational systems in the country. An income tax is NOT the answer!

Lawmakers: please show some leadership and demand accountability from our school districts- rather than adding the ever increasing burden of income taxes to Alaskans.

There are very good reasons people are taking their families away from Alaska now. Please, for the sake of Alaskans barely coping with the high cost of living, coupled to ongoing inflation- DO NOT add an income tax!

Sincerely,  
Tom Anderson  
Anchorage, AK

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Erika Monahan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 11:44 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** fund public schools

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear State representatives,

I write to encourage you to increase funding for public schools. Anchorage schools have been operating with a deficit.

Strong public education is foundational to a free, opportunity-rich, thriving market society. It's as important as basic infrastructure, a police force that protects and serves the people, and an impartial, functional judiciary.

**PRIORITIZE PUBLIC EDUCATION.**

Once we have fully and sufficiently funded public education, then we can have a conversation about whether there is left-over extra money to subsidize ignorant fanatics who don't want their children to learn about Biology, History, or Evolution.

All best,  
Erika Monahan

## Stuart Relay

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**From:** Benjamin Elbow <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2026 11:31 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB152 -- please support

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear House State Affairs Committee,

I wanted to briefly reach out to let you know that I fully support HB152, and would love it if you did too. I love that every resident pays something, but that higher wage earners pay a larger portion. I prefer this option to one where everyone pays the same percentage. As a higher wage earning family, we are happy and eager to help generate more revenue for our state. Our schools, roads, parks, and public safety -- though mostly our schools! -- all need greater support to fully provide for our communities.

Thank you!

Ben Elbow

[REDACTED] Anchorage, AK 99508