

Good Morning, Madam Chairman and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jackie Hanson, and I serve as the Superintendent of Craig City School District. I have dedicated over 20 years to education in our great state, am a longtime resident of Prince of Wales Island, personally built my home in Craig, my husband is a retired Alaskan teacher, and my two sons, now graduates, proudly received an Alaska public school education.

I strongly support House Joint Resolution 5, advocating for continued federal funding of the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) Program, which is vital in Southeast Alaska. In addition to supporting various community and public services, these funds play a key role in sustaining and enhancing educational services, supporting school operations, and enriching student programs in communities with limited local revenue. With much of our land federally managed, local funding options are limited. On the education front specifically, SRS funding is essential to school districts in Southeast Alaska, helping schools provide students with a high-quality education.

HJR 5 reaffirms Alaska's commitment to ensuring our rural communities receive the necessary resources to provide strong educational programs and essential student as well as community services.

Thank you,

Jackie Hanson

Superintendent, Craig City School District

2.12.25

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