



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Health

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March 26, 2026

The Honorable Senator Tobin  
Chair, Senate Education Committee  
Alaska State Capitol, Room 105  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Chair Tobin,

In response to the question asked in Senate Education committee on March 20, 2026, on whether SB228 could be funded by opioid settlement funds:

The opioid education curriculum proposed by SB228 is considered an allowable expense under Exhibit E of the final opioid settlement agreement. However, the settlement agreement requires an established advisory committee to provide recommendations and guidance regarding remediation spending. In Alaska, this group is the Opioid Settlement Steering Committee, a multidisciplinary body responsible for ensuring funds are used appropriately, align with statewide priorities, and are not duplicative of other available funding sources such as federal grants. This structure protects the integrity of the settlement and ensures equitable, strategic investment across the State.

To move forward, the curriculum proposal would need to be brought to the Opioid Settlement Steering Committee for discussion, prioritization, and formal approval before any funds could be allocated. In addition, if the Committee supports the proposal, the Department of Health will still be required to seek legislative appropriation of the approved amount during the budgeting process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heidi Hedberg".

Heidi Hedberg  
Commissioner

cc: Jordan Shilling, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor