



February 29, 2016

The Honorable Tammie Wilson
State Capitol Room 412
Juneau, AK 99801-1185

RE: Requested White Paper on the Impact of HB 265

Dear Representative Wilson,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with Kathy Leary and me last Thursday about HB 265 and TVEP more generally. It was an edifying experience and an interesting discussion. As you requested, we are following up in writing with some points of concern and the impact competitively driven STEP grants would have on our current programming.

Our first concern is that the Step Grant process shifts our focus away from Ilisagvik College's strengths and our mission. Our first priority is to consistently schedule relevant and employment/pathway driven trainings. We know our communities well and have a powerful marketing department. We can facilitate classes, maintain good attendance numbers, and help place our graduates into jobs. In fact a substantial amount of courses are in response to upcoming for which employers will be hiring. We've had employers conduct interviews at the end of a 15 day intensive training. These are our core competencies.

We are not as adept at becoming eligibility workers to make sure only certain students can attend trainings. As Kathy Leary described it in our meeting, being the "eligibility police" is not one of our core competencies. As she pointed out, the people *are* paying the UI taxes that fund the TVEP program are often underemployed and require credentials to maintain their jobs or to allow for promotability within a career pathway. As most credentialed/certified trainings are industry driven and the certified experts who instruct them are in high demand and do not come cheap, people in an entry level position cannot afford a \$500 4-day class to maintain their licenses.

Secondly, the eligibility requirements of STEP would preclude a substantial amount of the Alaskans we serve from participating in trainings. In many Alaskan communities it may be the norm for adults who work full time jobs to file for unemployment if they lose that job. Such a person might then be eligible to receive training through the STEP program should that community be served under the STEP process. For a variety of reasons, in the majority of the communities we serve, those expectations do not apply.

Nearly every community we serve has persistently high unemployment due in part to a lack of critical population mass which creates the number of service industry jobs evident in larger communities. Also, many of these communities live a subsistence lifestyle and there are times during which they need to be involved in subsistence harvest in order to feed and clothe their families. That coupled with seasonal employment, typical of much of Alaska, does not lend itself to having a year round income. Even

if an individual is in an unemployment-eligible position having been laid off or terminated, it is becoming increasingly difficult to file for unemployment on the North Slope.

You may be aware that our DOL employment office was recently closed making Fairbanks the closest office. I suspect that is the case in other regions as well. Therefore, while the college is more than capable of holding job readiness and employer driven classes and trainings to prepare residents for jobs in their communities and elsewhere, most of our potential students would not be eligible under the STEP scenario as it now exists. Additionally, the best class, if only partially full, is a waste of State resources. We can best maximize attendance and training dollars with the TVEP process as it currently exists.

We firmly believe in the vocational dual credit mandate of TVEP. Since starting TVEP last year, our department has posted dual credit numbers not seen at Iḷisaġvik in our 20 year history. Since almost all High School students are not on unemployment, STEP grants have no real way of encouraging dual credit classes. This success would greatly diminish or eliminate the dual credit piece of the legislative intent that was included in the last TVEP legislation. TVEP allows us to specify how we are going to spend the money by category each year, not by class. The flexibility to meet the needs of employers is our highest priorities and our success in this area is something we are proud of. If we had to apply for funding or project the exact types of trainings as is the norm in the STEP grant - and as a rule any other grant process - we would not be able to respond to the needs of stakeholders and residents as efficiently as we do now.

We have created several long term partnerships with employers and other private third party training providers. In so doing we are able to leverage other dollars. Each organization has various sources of revenue or instructional talent or equipment to offer and we work diligently at getting the best bang for the TVEP buck. Moving the goalposts at this point would be detrimental to the program on several levels. If there are issues with *how* these funds are being utilized then perhaps that should be examined. We have suggestions for that and would be happy to discuss them with you, should you request it as you move forward with TVEP reauthorization next year.

As demonstrated by the strengths of Iḷisaġvik's Vocational Education and Workforce Development Department and the specific needs of our students, employers, residents and other stakeholders, we request that you reevaluate the direction of HB 265 and instead look at alternative ways to implement the efficiencies you would like to see occur with these funds.

Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to contact me or Kathy Leary at 907.570.1949 if you need more information.

Sincerely,



Ben Glover, M. Ed.
Dean of Vocational Education and Workforce Development
907.852.6257/ben.glover@ilisagvik.edu



Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium

Resolution 2016-04 Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REAUTHORIZATION OF ALASKA TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (TVEP) FUNDS

WHEREAS, current and future workforce needs require continued education and training to stay competitive; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature established the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) Fund to provide grants to technical and vocational education entities to provide industry specific training, on-the-job training, and classroom job-linked training as part of a statewide vocational training system; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska (UA), Iliisagvik College and Alaska's regional training centers have been recipients of TVEP funding and utilize the funds to deliver education and training programs aligned to regional workforce demands to more than 4,000 students throughout the state of Alaska resulting in graduates for Alaska's jobs; and

WHEREAS, the TVEP investments are aligned with priority industries established by the Alaska Workforce Investment Board; and

WHEREAS, the UA workforce development priorities include recognition of economic and community development, career pathways, and high demand jobs as endorsed by University of Alaska Statewide Academic Council; Iliisagvik College and regional training centers include priorities aligned with regional workforce needs, and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska, Iliisagvik College and regional training centers partner with employers and industry and other providers to offer education and training programs that meet industry and occupational needs throughout the state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Technical Vocational Education Program funding is due to sunset in June 2017;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium urges the Legislature and the Governor to support the reauthorization of the Technical Vocational Education Program Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium encourages the Legislature and the Governor to support current Technical Vocational Education Program Fund allocations to the University of Alaska, Iliisagvik College and the regional training centers in the state.

CERTIFICATION

The Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium Board of Directors held a vote on November 30, 2016, to convey support for reauthorization of Alaska Technical Vocational Education Program Fund, and the foregoing Resolution 2016-04 was adopted unanimously.

Signed this 1st day of December, 2016.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Craig Crawford'.

Craig Crawford, Chair
Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium (APICC)

Distribution: APICC Board of Directors, Alaska Legislature, Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Southeast Alaska Classes with Hydaburg, Metlakatla and Ketchikan

Hiland Mountain correctional Facility Courses Fall 2015-Fall 2016



Resolution 2016-01
Maritime Works Leadership Council

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REAUTHORIZATION OF ALASKA
TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (TVEP) FUNDS**

WHEREAS, current and future workforce needs require continued education and training to stay competitive; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature established the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) Fund to provide grants to technical and vocational education entities to provide industry specific training, on-the-job training, and classroom job-linked training as part of a statewide vocational training system; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska (UA), Iliisagvik College and Alaska's regional training centers have been recipients of TVEP funding and utilize the funds to deliver education and training programs aligned to regional workforce demands to more than 4,000 students throughout the state of Alaska resulting in graduates for Alaska's jobs; and

WHEREAS, the TVEP investments are aligned with priority industries established by the Alaska Workforce Investment Board; and

WHEREAS, the UA workforce development priorities include recognition of economic and community development, career pathways, and high demand jobs as endorsed by University of Alaska Statewide Academic Council; Iliisagvik College and regional training centers include priorities aligned with regional workforce needs, and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska, Iliisagvik College and regional training centers partner with employers and industry and other providers to offer education and training programs that meet industry and occupational needs throughout the state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Technical Vocational Education Program funding is due to sunset in June 2017;

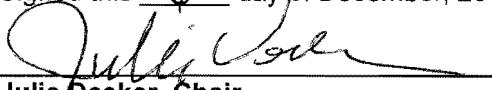
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Maritime Works Leadership Council urges the Legislature and the Governor to support the reauthorization of the Technical Vocational Education Program Fund; and

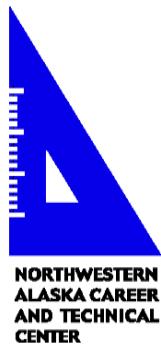
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Maritime Works Leadership Council encourages the Legislature and the Governor to support current Technical Vocational Education Program Fund allocations to the University of Alaska, Iliisagvik College and the regional training centers in the state.

CERTIFICATION

The Maritime Works Leadership Council held a vote on December 5, 2016, to convey support for reauthorization of Alaska Technical Vocational Education Program Fund, and the foregoing Resolution 2016-01 was adopted unanimously.

Signed this 6th day of December, 2016.


Julie Decker, Chair
Maritime Works Leadership Council (MWLC)



Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center

Douglas J. Walrath, Ph.D
P.O. Box 131
Nome, AK 99762
Tel: 907-443-3507
Fax: 907-443-7076
<http://www.nacteonline.org>

February 17, 2017

To: The Honorable Representative Zach Fansler

RE: TVEP Reauthorization Legislation

Dear Representative Fansler,

The Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center (NACTEC) supports the reauthorization of TVEP. The Regional Training Center (RTC) network, supported by TVEP funding, provides autonomy and flexibility to meet the unique needs of each region's priority industries. The RTC's provide workforce development training that otherwise would need to occur out of region, and at a much greater expense to the state.

Healthcare training is the top priority in the Nome Census Area. Norton Sound Health Corporation, our largest regional employer, partners with NACTEC to deliver dual credit high school courses: *Introduction to Health Field* and *Emergency Trauma Technician* training. TVEP funding supports industry certification in our Healthcare strand, through advanced technical training, which transitions students immediately into employment as Certified Nurse Aides or Village Health Aides.

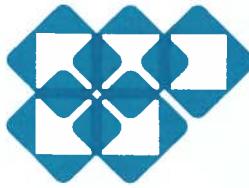
In addition to Healthcare, NACTEC delivers a sequence of courses across Alaskan priority industries in Construction, Transportation, Seafood Harvesting & Processing, and Hospitality & Tourism. A vitally important workforce development training program, cutting across all industries, noted as a top priority is Driver Education training. NACTEC is the only provider of adult and high school Driver Education training in the Nome Census Area, and also a DMV-approved third party road test examiner in Nome.

As our State budget has restricted, shedding workers and training dollars alike, it becomes critically important to make earlier outreach to develop a technically skilled workforce. NACTEC supports TVEP reauthorization efforts and its expansive reach across our large state to train workforces locally, to best meet local needs.

Sincerely,

Douglas J. Walrath, Ph.D.
Director, Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center

Cc: Representative Neal Foster
Commissioner Heidi Drygas



Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc.

Building Alaska's Workforce

1696 N. Clearwater Avenue • PO Box 956, Delta Junction, AK 99737 • (907) 895-4605, (907) 895-4629 fax

A consortium of educational partners operating the Delta Career Advancement Center to train, educate and build Alaska's workforce

February 17, 2017

Representative Zack Fansler
Alaska State Capitol
Room 416
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Fansler:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc. I wish to express our board's full support for re-authorization of the Technical and Vocational Education Program (TVEP) funding for the Regional Training Centers. We also support a five-year funding commitment which will allow for better planning and program commitments.

Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc. evolved as a result of the Department of Defense noting a lack of skilled workers in the Delta area in 2002. We brought education and training partners together to discuss ways we could provide career pathway training and development. Being named a Regional Training Center in 2008 and receiving a share of the TVEP funds has made it possible for us to offer education and training opportunities that have resulted in career opportunities for many area residents.

Re-authorization of TVEP funding will allow us to continue our mission of helping to build Alaska's workforce—making it possible for Alaskans to be competitive for jobs that sustain local economies and build communities.

Sincerely,

Mary Leith, President
Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc.



Southwest Alaska Vocational & Education Center
Training Alaskans to fill Alaskan Jobs

P.O. Box 615
Bldg. 647, King Salmon AFB
King Salmon, AK 99613

Phone: (907) 246-4600
Fax: (907) 246-4607
Web: www.savec.org

February 27, 2017

Reference: HB 141

Representative Zach Fansler
AK State Capitol Room 416
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Fansler,

We are writing in support of reauthorization of the Alaska Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP). The TVEP funds are vital to Southwest Alaska Vocational & Education Center (SAVEC) in meeting its mission to “promote, coordinate and provide high quality training and education to the residents of Southwest Alaska.” Without TVEP designated 3% funding, SAVEC would be devastated.

TVEP funding allows us to provide training that has a direct impact on the local and Alaska economy. SAVEC’s service area is comprised of 31 villages. We strive hard to meet TVEP’s mission of training Alaskans for Alaskan jobs and providing vocational education tied to the workforce.

Thanks to TVEP funding, SAVEC is the primary source of jobs training and vocational education in the Bristol Bay region. The Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation has designated SAVEC as its preferred vocational education organization because locals are able to stay in region to receive short term and job specific workplace training.

Please continue funding the Alaska Vocational Education Program (TVEP).

Respectfully,


Anishia Elbie
Co-Executive Director


Annette Caruso
Co-Executive Director

Alaska Health Workforce Coalition

Resolution 2016-1



Resolution in Support of Reauthorization of the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP)

WHEREAS, the current and future Alaska workforce will require training and continuing education to be competent and competitive; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature established the Technical Vocational Education Program Fund to provide grants to technical and vocational education entities to provide industry specific training, on-the-job training and classroom job linked training; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska, AVTEC and other designated Regional Training Centers have been recipients of Technical Vocational Education Program funding and utilizes the funds to deliver hundreds of training programs to thousands of secondary and postsecondary students throughout the state of Alaska each year resulting in graduates for Alaska's jobs; and

WHEREAS, TVEP investments are aligned with priority industries established by the Alaska Workforce Investment Board; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska workforce development priorities include recognition of economic and community development, career pathways and high demand jobs as endorsed by University of Alaska Statewide Academic Council; and

WHEREAS, there is a competitive process in place to ensure TVEP funding is awarded to appropriate, highest priority programs; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska, AVTEC, and other designated Regional Training Centers partner with employers and industry, other providers and high schools to offer education and training programs that meet industry and occupational needs throughout the state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Technical Vocational Education Program funding is due to sunset in June 2017;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that partner members of the Alaska Health Workforce Coalition urge the Legislature and the Governor to support the reauthorization of the Technical Vocational Education Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these Alaska Health Workforce Coalition partners encourage the Legislature and the Governor to support current Technical Vocational Education Fund allocations to the University of Alaska, AVTEC and other designated Regional Training Centers.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Alaska Health Workforce Coalition this 8th day of December, 2016.



121 W. FIREWEED SUITE 120 | ANCHORAGE, ALASKA | 99503 | 907.563.9229 | ALASKAMINERS.ORG

Resolution 2017-1

A Resolution in Support of Reauthorization of the Technical Vocational Education Program Fund

WHEREAS, current and future workforce needs require continued education and training to stay competitive; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature established the Technical Vocational Education Fund to provide grants to technical and vocational education entities to provide industry specific training, on-the-job training and classroom job linked training; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska and the regional training centers have been recipients of Technical Vocational Education Program funding and utilize the funds to deliver hundreds of education and training programs to more than 11,000 students throughout the state of Alaska resulting in graduates for Alaska's jobs; and

WHEREAS, the TVEP investments are aligned with priority industries established by the Alaska Workforce Investment Board; and

WHEREAS, the UA workforce development priorities include recognition of economic and community development, career pathways and high demand jobs as endorsed by University of Alaska Statewide Academic Council; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska partners with employers and industry and other providers to offer education and training programs that meet industry and occupational needs throughout the state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Technical Vocational Education Program funding is due to sunset in June 2017;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Miners Association urges the Legislature and the Governor to support the reauthorization of the Technical Vocational Education Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Miners Association encourages the Legislature and the Governor to support current Technical Vocational Education Fund allocations to the University of Alaska and the regional training centers in the state.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Alaska Miners Association HR Committee this 1st day of December, 2016.



Resolution 2016-04
Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REAUTHORIZATION OF ALASKA
TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (TVEP) FUNDS**

WHEREAS, current and future workforce needs require continued education and training to stay competitive; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature established the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) Fund to provide grants to technical and vocational education entities to provide industry specific training, on-the-job training, and classroom job-linked training as part of a statewide vocational training system; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska (UA), Iliisagvik College and Alaska's regional training centers have been recipients of TVEP funding and utilize the funds to deliver education and training programs aligned to regional workforce demands to more than 4,000 students throughout the state of Alaska resulting in graduates for Alaska's jobs; and

WHEREAS, the TVEP investments are aligned with priority industries established by the Alaska Workforce Investment Board; and

WHEREAS, the UA workforce development priorities include recognition of economic and community development, career pathways, and high demand jobs as endorsed by University of Alaska Statewide Academic Council; Iliisagvik College and regional training centers include priorities aligned with regional workforce needs, and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska, Iliisagvik College and regional training centers partner with employers and industry and other providers to offer education and training programs that meet industry and occupational needs throughout the state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Technical Vocational Education Program funding is due to sunset in June 2017;

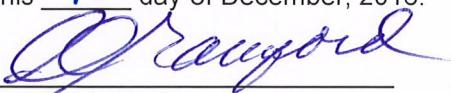
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium urges the Legislature and the Governor to support the reauthorization of the Technical Vocational Education Program Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium encourages the Legislature and the Governor to support current Technical Vocational Education Program Fund allocations to the University of Alaska, Iliisagvik College and the regional training centers in the state.

CERTIFICATION

The Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium Board of Directors held a vote on November 30, 2016, to convey support for reauthorization of Alaska Technical Vocational Education Program Fund, and the foregoing Resolution 2016-04 was adopted unanimously.

Signed this 15 day of December, 2016.



Craig Crawford, Chair
Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium (APICC)

Distribution: APICC Board of Directors, Alaska Legislature, Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Alaska Business Education Compact

Resolution 2016-1

A Resolution in Support of Reauthorization of the Technical Vocational Education Program Fund

WHEREAS, current and future workforce needs require continued education and training to stay competitive; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature established the Technical Vocational Education Fund to provide grants to technical and vocational education entities to provide industry specific training, on-the-job training and classroom job linked training; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska and the regional training centers have been recipients of Technical Vocational Education Program funding and utilize the funds to deliver hundreds of education and training programs to thousands of students throughout the state of Alaska resulting in graduates for Alaska's jobs; and

WHEREAS, the TVEP investments are aligned with priority industries established by the Alaska Workforce Investment Board; and

WHEREAS, the UA workforce development priorities include recognition of economic and community development, career pathways and high demand jobs as endorsed by University of Alaska Statewide Academic Council; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska and regional training centers partner with employers, industry and other providers to offer education and training programs that meet industry and occupational needs throughout the state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Technical Vocational Education Program funding is due to sunset in June 2017;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Business Education Compact urges the Legislature and the Governor to support the reauthorization of the Technical Vocational Education Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Business Education Compact encourages the Legislature and the Governor to support current Technical Vocational Education Fund allocations to the University of Alaska and the regional training centers in the state.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Alaska Business Education Compact this 14th day of December, 2016.



RESOLUTION NUMBER 16-08

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (TVEP)

Whereas, the current and future workforce of Alaska needs continuing education and training to remain competitive in the job markets of today and tomorrow;

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature established the Technical Vocational Education Fund to provide grants to technical and vocational education entities to provide industry specific training, on-the-job training and classroom job linked training; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska has been a recipient of Technical Vocational Education Program funding and utilizes the funds to deliver hundreds of education and training programs to more than 4,000 students throughout the state of Alaska resulting in graduates for Alaska's jobs; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska TVEP investments are aligned with priority industries established the Alaska Workforce Investment Board; and

WHEREAS the University of Alaska workforce development priorities include recognition of economic and community development, career pathways and high demand jobs as endorsed by University of Alaska Statewide Academic Council; and

WHEREAS, the university of Alaska partners with employers and industry and other providers to offer education and training programs that meet industry and occupational needs throughout the state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Technical Vocational Educational Program funding is due to sunset in June 2017.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center Trust urges the Legislature and the Governor to support the reauthorization of the Technical Vocational Education Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center rust encourages the Legislature and the Governor to support current Technical Vocational Education Fund allocation to the University of Alaska.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center Trust Board of Trustees on this 6th day of December, 2016.



Bob Hubbard
Chair



Resolution 2016-1

A Resolution in Support of Reauthorization of the Technical Vocational Education Program Fund and Allocation to the University of Alaska

WHEREAS, current and future workforce needs require continued education and training to stay competitive; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature established the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) to provide grants to technical and vocational education entities to provide industry specific training, on-the-job training and classroom job linked training; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska has been a recipient of TVEP funding and utilizes the funds to deliver hundreds of education and training programs to more than 5000 secondary and postsecondary students throughout the state of Alaska resulting in graduates for Alaska's jobs; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska TVEP investments are aligned with priority industries established by the Alaska Workforce Investment Board; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska workforce development priorities include recognition of economic and community development, career pathways and high demand jobs as endorsed by University of Alaska Statewide Academic Council; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska partners with employers and industry, other providers and high schools to offer education and training programs that meet industry and occupational needs throughout the state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Technical Vocational Education Program funding is due to sunset in June 2017;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mining and Petroleum Training Service (MAPTS) urges the Legislature and the Governor to support the reauthorization of the TVEP; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that MAPTS encourages the Legislature and the Governor to support current TVEP allocations to the University of Alaska.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by MAPTS this 15 day of November 2016.



Resolution 2016-01
Maritime Works Leadership Council

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REAUTHORIZATION OF ALASKA
TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (TVEP) FUNDS**

WHEREAS, current and future workforce needs require continued education and training to stay competitive; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature established the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) Fund to provide grants to technical and vocational education entities to provide industry specific training, on-the-job training, and classroom job-linked training as part of a statewide vocational training system; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska (UA), Iliisagvik College and Alaska's regional training centers have been recipients of TVEP funding and utilize the funds to deliver education and training programs aligned to regional workforce demands to more than 4,000 students throughout the state of Alaska resulting in graduates for Alaska's jobs; and

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WHEREAS, the UA workforce development priorities include recognition of economic and community development, career pathways, and high demand jobs as endorsed by University of Alaska Statewide Academic Council; Iliisagvik College and regional training centers include priorities aligned with regional workforce needs, and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska, Iliisagvik College and regional training centers partner with employers and industry and other providers to offer education and training programs that meet industry and occupational needs throughout the state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Technical Vocational Education Program funding is due to sunset in June 2017;

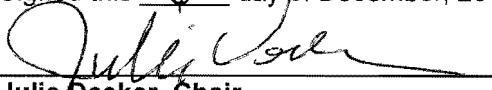
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Maritime Works Leadership Council urges the Legislature and the Governor to support the reauthorization of the Technical Vocational Education Program Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Maritime Works Leadership Council encourages the Legislature and the Governor to support current Technical Vocational Education Program Fund allocations to the University of Alaska, Iliisagvik College and the regional training centers in the state.

CERTIFICATION

The Maritime Works Leadership Council held a vote on December 5, 2016, to convey support for reauthorization of Alaska Technical Vocational Education Program Fund, and the foregoing Resolution 2016-01 was adopted unanimously.

Signed this 6th day of December, 2016.


Julie Decker, Chair
Maritime Works Leadership Council (MWLC)

James R. Johnsen, Ed.D.

President

Butrovich Bldg, Ste. 202, 910 Yukon Drive
P.O. Box 755000, Fairbanks, AK 99775-5000
Phone: (907) 450-8000; Fax: (907) 450-8012
Email: ua.president@alaska.edu
www.alaska.edu



UNIVERSITY

of ALASKA

Many Traditions One Alaska

March 2, 2017

The Honorable Zach Fansler
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol Building, Room 416
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Fansler,

Thank you for introducing House Bill 141 reauthorizing the Alaska Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) until 2022. TVEP provides grants to education entities who provide career and technical training. The University of Alaska depends on TVEP funds to help educate and train the skilled and talented workforce Alaska needs to build a diverse, robust and competitive economy.

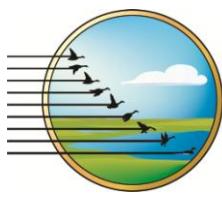
The TVEP program at the University of Alaska has made a significant impact on the economy since its inception by expanding nursing and other critical health programs, creating employment opportunities within the natural resource sectors including oil and gas, mining, fisheries and maritime. Other industries directly benefitting from the university's TVEP investments are hospitality and tourism, education, information technology, transportation and construction. Industry advisory committees guide the university programs to ensure they meet current employer requirements and assist graduates of both credit and non-credit programs to gain employment upon successful completion.

Future opportunities in workforce development include specialized and rural health occupations as Medicaid Expansion and our aging population continues to grow; diversification of our natural resource development as manufacturing sectors become even more critical to generate revenue; and strengthening our career and technical education programs to create a work- and college-ready culture of education. More information on how the university is effectively using TVEP funding is available at <https://www.alaska.edu/research/wp/funding/>.

We have an imperative here in Alaska to meet the workforce demands of a rapidly changing world economy. National experts are predicting that by 2025, sixty-five percent of jobs in Alaska will require some form of post-secondary education. Forty percent of those are expected to need some form of career or technical certification. TVEP is an important piece of achieving those goals and ensuring we are meeting the needs of employers. Please let me know how the University of Alaska can assist you in advancing this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James R. Johnsen".
James R. Johnsen



Yuut Elitnaurvia

PEOPLE'S LEARNING CENTER

Alaska National Guard • Association of Village Council Presidents • Association of Village Council Presidents, Regional Housing Authority
Bethel Community Services Foundation • Calista Corporation • City of Bethel • Donlin Gold • Lower Kuskokwim School District
Orutsararmuit Native Council • UAF - Kuskokwim Campus • Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation

February 16, 2017

RE: TVEP Reauthorization 2018

ATTN: Rep. Zach Fansler
Alaska State Capitol Rm 416
Juneau, Ak. 99801

Dear Representative Fansler:

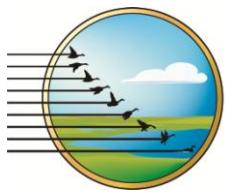
Yuut Elitnaurvia-People's Learning Center Inc. (Yuut) would like to express our full and unwavering support of Governor Walker's proposal to reauthorize the Technical and Vocational Education Program (TVEP) for the next five years.

As you know, Yuut is a fully operational vocational school with a campus located in Bethel. Our organization was created by a local consortium of employers and tribes to deliver workforce development programs to our Yukon Kuskokwim Region, the most populated and underserved in rural Alaska. Yuut has demonstrated repeatedly that TVEP investment can be maximized to benefit some of Alaska's hardest to serve residents. We are regional experts tasked with the mission of getting local residents into high wage occupations. We are responsive to both the long and short term needs of our employers and students. Our local network of resources is second to none. Our ability to leverage programs, funding and partnerships to deliver programs, that are both innovative and high impact, are a direct benefit to the State of Alaska.

Since our campus went into full operation in 2009 Yuut has provided 8060 training services with a 98% completion rate. In fiscal year 2016 alone we served 724 individuals and at the same time restructured to accommodate a 125 student residential charter school that was displaced by a catastrophic school fire in November of 2015. TVEP funding was instrumental in giving our organization the flexibility needed to assist the school during its time of crisis. The school is still on our campus for the 2016-2017 school year and we now have plans to complete renovations and make the arrangement permanent. At Yuut the secondary students have direct access to postsecondary training and vocational opportunities that prepare them to move into the workforce after graduation. It has been an unexpected positive that emerged from the tragic fire.

Yuut services also include direct training for dozens of industry driven classes including: GED instruction & testing (largest program in rural Alaska), Rural Alaska's only State Certified Driving School (permit classes, behind the wheel training, ADL & CDL testing), hosting the Dental Therapy Program (the only of its kind in the US), Rural Alaska's only full apprenticeship programs for Industrial Electric, Plumbing & Carpentry, coordinating the LKSD- Ready programs (brings village based students to Bethel so that they can take advanced math, science & industry classes), and Yuut hosts Village Police Officer Trainings for the entire state.

Yuut carefully collects student data and keeps impeccable financial records. We take our commitment to our funders seriously and strive to ensure we are always good stewards of all public and private funds.



Yuut Elitnaurviaat

PEOPLE'S LEARNING CENTER

Alaska National Guard • Association of Village Council Presidents • Association of Village Council Presidents, Regional Housing Authority
Bethel Community Services Foundation • Calista Corporation • City of Bethel • Donlin Gold • Lower Kuskokwim School District
Orutsararmuit Native Council • UAF - Kuskokwim Campus • Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation

Our greatest source of pride is our commitment to our students. We know them. We know their families. Their success is our success.

TVEP funding has been and will continue to be critical to the quantifiable success of our organization. The TVEP program is an effective investment strategy for the State to support workforce development in the YK Delta. We appreciate your support of the continuation of the Technical and Vocational Education Program.

Respectfully,

Dennis Dishion
Executive Director



February 23, 2017

Dear Representative Fansler;

On behalf of Ilisagvik College I provide our endorsement of House Bill 141 to reauthorize the TVEP program as crafted, with no changes to the program.

Please note, Ilisagvik is fully complying with the goals and intent of the TVEP program as presented in the 2016 TVEP Report and in fact is number one of the training providers in meeting those metrics.

Ilisagvik College is a public, non-profit institution serving Alaskans across the state and is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU).

At Ilisagvik College we:

- Offer the best possible training that meets the needs of Alaskan employers and helps Alaska residents stay competitive in demanding job and business markets
- Are a public, non-profit institution, with open enrollment, serving Alaskans across the state
- Serve Alaskan residents who are underemployed and unemployed, including Veterans, Seniors and Vocational Rehabilitation clients
- Build positive, sustainable community change by providing the tools necessary for Alaska residents to be work ready, hired locally and able to develop entrepreneurial opportunities
- Work directly with employers to customize courses that specifically train for current and upcoming employment opportunities. Instructors for our courses encourage participants to consider occupational vocational-technical goals for the future and provide for industry driven certifications.

The challenge to provide quality employment opportunities to local Alaskans in the North Slope's oilfields and other industries statewide is really one of providing the educational opportunity for students to prepare adequately for technical high-demand jobs. With TVEP funds we have done some remarkable work and want to continue on this pathway.

With the present fiscal uncertainty and job decline, we understand the fund is less this year and may decline in further years. It is for that reason that we support the status quo with no new additions to the list of providers. We fully support the continuation of the TVEP program as is currently in statute with a new effective date.

Please let us know if we can provide you any additional information.

Sincerely,

Dr. Pearl Brower
President, Ilisagvik College