

**From:** [Ann Rappoport](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#); [Senator.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov](mailto:Senator.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov); [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); [Sen. Lyman Hoffman](#); [Sen. Donny Olson](#); [Sen. James Kaufman](#); [Sen. Mike Cronk](#)  
**Cc:** [Sen. Cathy Giessel](#); [Rep. Ky Holland](#)  
**Subject:** Please support more education funding - approve HB 28 ASAP!  
**Date:** Sunday, May 17, 2026 11:33:51 PM

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Hello Senate Finance Committee -

You have all heard ad nauseam that school funding needs to be increased to ensure class sizes are appropriate, the full range of courses can be offered, and extra assistance can be provided to students who need it - along with so much more. I greatly appreciate the bump in the BSA that you and other members of the Legislature approved last year; unfortunately it did not go far enough, and did not count for future inflation and other increased education costs.

HB 28 will help us achieve stable, adequate funding for our schools with measures that better cover other parts of our education system including supporting teachers with loan forgiveness, providing state funds to help cover school energy costs, and alleviating pressures on the budgets of fast-growing communities. This is essential to ensure Alaska's students receive the education they deserve and are guaranteed in the Alaska Constitution while resulting in support and better teaching conditions for our teachers. How can teachers be expected to provide the needed guidance, education, and information when class sizes continue to increase, and they have to fear pink slips every year? Of course, a defined benefit retirement system will also help us retain experienced, top talent. It's wonderful that the Legislature has passed that bill (as we anxiously wait to see what the Governor will do).

Please swiftly approve HB 28!

Thank you,  
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