

HB 21 *School*
HEALTHCARE
CONSOLIDATION

Sponsored by: Rep. Sarah Vance



What Drives the Cost of Public Education in Alaska?



Small Schools



Healthcare



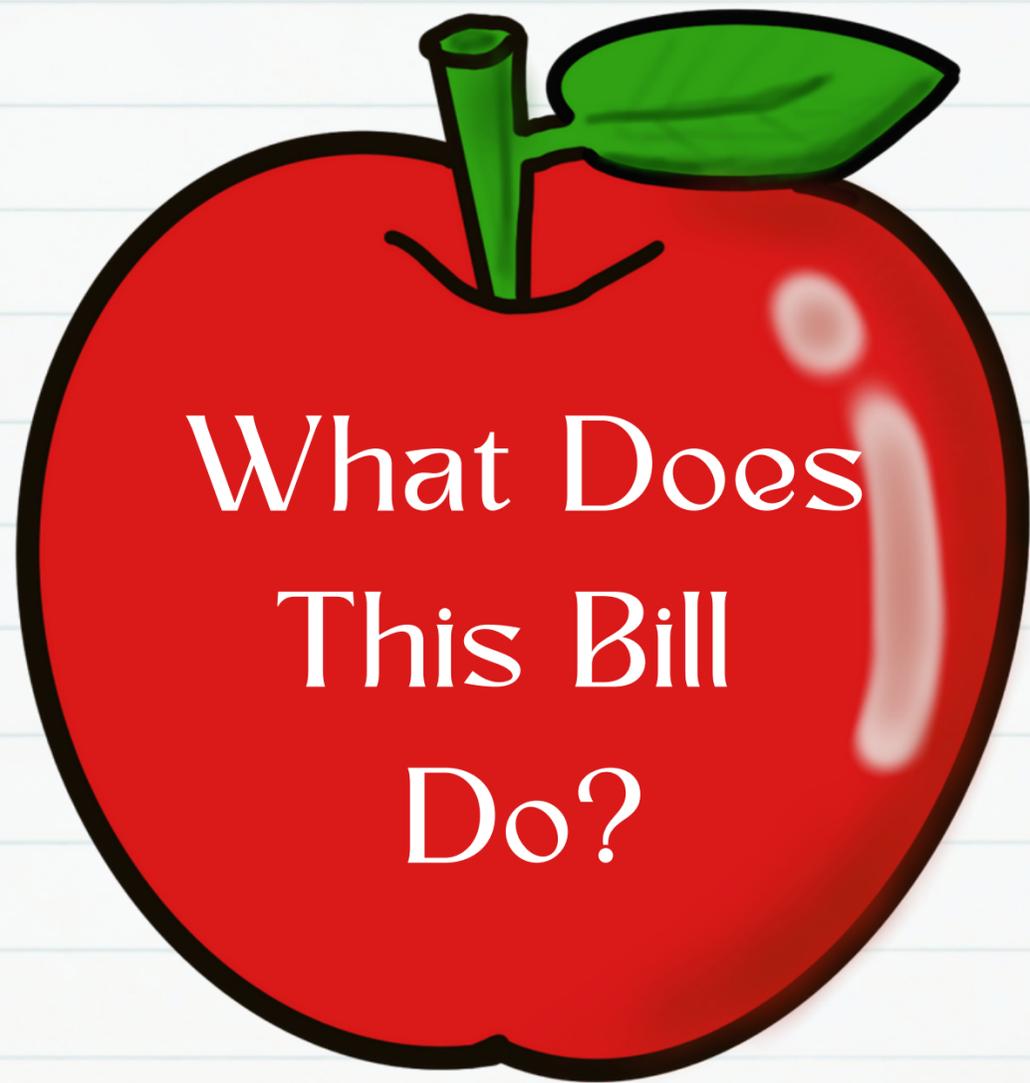
Energy





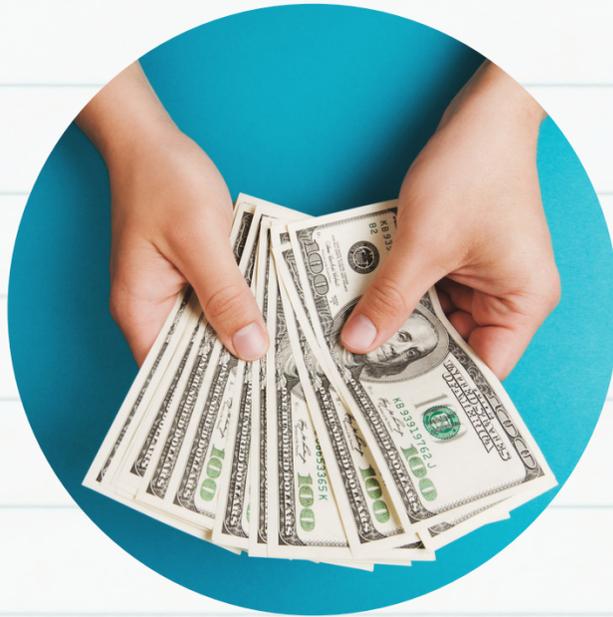
Healthcare

"**Alaska has the highest per capita healthcare costs in the US** (Passini, Frazier, & Guettabi, 2018), which negatively affects private and public sectors of our economy. Healthcare costs are a part of teacher compensation. Alaska unadjusted per-pupil spending on teacher salaries is 14th in the nation - but after adjusted to US cost-of-living, the amount is 23% below the national average. Similarly, Alaska's unadjusted per-pupil spending on educator's employee benefits is 64% above the US average - but after adjusted is only 9% above the US average. **While the challenge of high healthcare costs is not unique to education, in a fixed budget scenario these costs put downward pressure on wages, making it more difficult for Alaska districts to offer teachers a nationally competitive salary.**"



Provides the option for school districts, the University of Alaska, and governmental units to participate in AlaskaCare: the state healthcare program.

Benefits of Consolidation



Saves Money

Eases the downward pressure on the Education budget.



More Healthcare Options

Expands healthcare choices for better care.



Reduced Staff Burden

Schools can focus on providing a quality education.

Thank you!



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