

**From:** Katie Bender  
**To:** [Sen. Anna MacKinnon](#)  
**Subject:** Education Tax Credit  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 02, 2018 8:14:28 PM

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Dear Senator MacKinnon,

I write today to implore you to retain the Education Tax Credit program as it was passed in HB233. It is a very important program for the University of Alaska and many other educations institutions and programs throughout the state. I understand there is a cost to the program, but I believe strongly that it is too important to cut to the extent that you have suggested in Senate Finance Committee bill substitute.

I know the power of the program as an alumna of the University of Alaska Anchorage and as an employee at Northrim Bank. Private donations help provide vital funding for the University and fill the gaps on what is not able to be delivered by public funds. My company provides significant funding to the University because we are able to utilize the Education Tax Credit and would not be likely to continue the funding at the same level if the program is cut as is suggested in the bill substitute.

As HB233 stands it allows for significant donations to support education throughout Alaska. The Finance Committee's proposed changes would be harmful to those donations. This will hurt the entire education system in Alaska, at a time when we need to be focused on education and our next generation.

I feel very strongly that the original House Bill is voted into law so that the Education Tax Credit does not sunset at the end of this fiscal year. Please consider supporting the bill as it stands right now before the upcoming adjournment.

Thank you.  
Katie Bender  
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