

**From:** [Sandi Keller](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Support  
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Hello. My name is Sandi Keller and have been a first grade teacher for 13 years. I had the first group of students who benefitted from having a certified teacher in the preschools. I can't tell you how much of a difference it made. Research has shown time and time again that if a child is not reading on grade level they most likely will stay below grade level in later years. Early education is so important, the stage when their mind is absorbing the most information they can possibly obtain in their life time. Please help our students by supporting early education in Northwestern Alaska.

Thank you for your time.

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