

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** Jeanne Swartz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 9:43 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** RE: Support for HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Members of the House State Affairs Committee,  
I would like to add my voice to the number of Alaskan citizens supporting HB 152. It is a fair, equitable and supportable proposal. If passed, it will help foster population and economic growth in our state.  
Thank you - Jeanne Swartz

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** Cindy Epperson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 10:12 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Education tax HB152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To WhomIt MayConcern:

We strongly support House Bill 152 to help with education funding. This is especially important given the Governor's veto of \$1000 BSA school funding and the terrible financial situation of our schools. We must do something to protect education in Alaska.

Dean and Cynthia Epperson

[REDACTED]  
Anchorage, AK 99507

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** vicki koehler [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 10:29 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I fully support HB 152. Alaska needs more income, and the 150/150 approach is reasonable, with minimal economic impact on each person.

Vicki Koehler, Fairbanks

Sent from my iPad

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** Lia Calhoun [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 10:34 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Support for HB152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Members of the House State Affairs Committee,

My husband and I are both proud graduates of Homer High School, where we each earned the distinction of valedictorian. 25 years ago, Alaska's public education system gave us an excellent foundation—one that allowed us to earn our four-year university degrees and led me to complete a Ph.D. in English. We chose to return to Alaska, the place we love, to raise our two young sons among our extended family. I now teach at the Homer campus of the University of Alaska, where I work daily with students striving to build a future here in our state.

Unfortunately, we are devastated by the current state of public education in Alaska, and we are experiencing the consequences firsthand. Since enrolling our sons in our local public school, we have felt the strain of inadequate funding in deeply personal ways:

- Our beloved neighborhood elementary school was listed by the KPBSD School Board for elimination or consolidation, as were all public schools in our Homer community, in this year's budget conversations.
- Homer Middle School Principal shared that a decade ago, advertised teaching positions would receive 30 or more applicants. Now, they are lucky to receive even a handful of applications. This is the one middle school available to my children.
- Families are leaving—not because they want to, but because they feel they have no choice when schools are under-resourced and unstable.
- Teachers are leaving—Just this week, my third-grade son's extraordinary teacher told us she is considering leaving the profession if our school closes. She is the first teacher who has truly ignited his passion for learning, and under her instruction, he has flourished—scoring in the 99th percentile for math and reading with 99th percentile growth over the year for both. The thought of my kindergartener never having the opportunity to learn from her is heartbreaking. And she is not the only one considering this choice. Many teachers and administrators have already received notices or are choosing to leave, and our high school administration is facing massive turnover.

The erosion of public education funding is taking a toll on our children, our communities, and our future workforce. We must generate new revenue to better support education in our state.

Please advance HB152. Our children—and Alaska's future—depend on it.

Sincerely,  
Lia Calhoun  
[REDACTED]  
Homer, Alaska 99603  
[REDACTED]

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** natalie neeser [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 10:38 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** We oppose the education tax!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Our PROPERTY taxes have almost doubled in the 11 years we've owned our current home. As it is, 80% of those taxes go to "education" and the kids these days aren't getting even mediocre educations!  
Our kids are grown... we don't feel we should bear the burden of education costs anymore & we cannot sustain more taxes.

How about we implement DOGE at the state and local levels and cut the redundant positions and outrageous salaries first!

We COMPLETELY OPPOSE THE EDUCATION TAX!

Natalie Neeser  
Real Estate Professional  
Real Estate Brokers of Alaska  
[REDACTED]

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** Shonti Elder <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 10:52 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** House Bill 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I live in Wasilla, and am in support of most of this bill. However, I would NOT tax anyone with income below the federal or state poverty level, even at \$150 / person.

If the bill can be adjusted to reflect that, then I very much support the idea.

Thank you.

Shonti Elder

[REDACTED]

Wasilla, AK 99654

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** Mike Bronson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 10:57 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Vote for HB 152 for school funding

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Representatives,

Please vote House Bill 152 out of your committee.

Much larger dollar allocations to schools are required to bring down class sizes for instruction that is adequate to meet the state reading and math standards, and thereby let the legislature meet its constitutional obligation. For example, hiring 2,000 more K-12 teachers will cost more than \$250 million per year more for compensation and benefits.

Indeed, legal adequacy among schools statewide is indicated by a preliminary study to cost \$500 to \$800 million per year more than you currently provide.

Your job is to get schools the money.

Thank you.

-Mike Bronson, District 16

Sent from my iPhone

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 11:30 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** 150/150 bill

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I support HB152, a Public Education Tax, a revenue bill.

Nikki Newcome  
PO 853  
Valdez, AK 99686



## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** CONNIE FREDENBERG [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 11:40 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Education Tax

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I fully support an Education Tax. I also support a progressive personal income tax and hope that fixes the S Corporation tax problem. And please increase taxes on oil companies. Legislators that work for oil companies should have to recuse themselves for that vote.

Sincerely,

Constance Fredenberg

[REDACTED]  
Palmer, AK. 99645

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** CONNIE FREDENBERG [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 11:42 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** Re: Education Tax

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I should add that I do not support Governor Dunleavy's policy change demands. No public money for private schools.

---

**From:** CONNIE [REDACTED]  
**To:** house <house.state.affairs@akleg.gov>  
**Date:** Wednesday, 30 April 2025 11:40 AM AKDT  
**Subject:** Education Tax

I fully support an Education Tax. I also support a progressive personal income tax and hope that fixes the S Corporation tax problem. And please increase taxes on oil companies. Legislators that work for oil companies should have to recuse themselves for that vote.

Sincerely,

Constance Fredenberg  
[REDACTED]  
Palmer, AK. 99645

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** Judy Green [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 11:43 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** H 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

> Dear Committee Members,  
> I am writing in support of HB152. I am a mother and grandmother to children and grandchildren who were born and have lived in this state all their lives and I am frustrated with the legacy we are leaving them! We cannot rely on draws from the Permanent Fund to balance our budget each year. Pretending we can afford to pay for services and give everyone a PFD is wishful thinking and needs to stop. If this were your own bank account you would look for additional revenue. And that is what this bill does. We cannot continue to rely on oil and gas to get us through. Relying on one source of revenue is not a sound plan. And if we continue to raid the Permanent Fund, we will reduce our ability to fund future budgets. Now is the time to put in place a reasonable tax such as this one to help fund the services we need in this state. Funding for many services, but especially education have stagnated and we are failing our children. Please vote for this bill. It is a start to righting the ship.  
>  
> Thanks very much,  
>  
> Judith Green  
> [REDACTED]  
> Anchorage

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** Homer Hounds [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 11:48 AM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** I support HB 52 - please vote yes!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear committee,

I support House Bill 52. Our children deserve to receive a quality education here in Alaska. If the state is not able to properly fund education under its current tax structure, it is imperative that we come up with additional sources of revenue for our schools. I am willing to pay an additional \$150 per year in taxes to educate our children. Please vote yes on HB 52!

Thank you,

Tory Rockefeller

Resident of Homer since 2003

Business owner and parent of a 1st grader at

McNeil Canyon Elementary School

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** Robbie Stell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 12:20 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Cc:** Rep. Andi Story; Sen. Jesse Kiehl  
**Subject:** HB152 Education Funding

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Public education opportunity for all children is in our best interests as a State. When I arrived 50+ years ago, there was a \$10 a head tax, no one blinked, except to think it should be a larger amount. Alaskans have benefited from NO taxes for far too long!! It's time to fix this revenue problem.

There are hundreds of out of state workers taking their salary back to Montana, Oregon, etc. every month, year after year, and not leaving one cent behind for this State to educate the next generations, or to pay for the many benefits these out of state workers enjoy. Stop the drain on our resources. Everyone earning a salary in this State needs to pay for these benefits, public education especially.

Sincerely,  
Mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother of Alaskans.

Sent from [Outlook](#)

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** David Matt Duncan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 12:36 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** I support Alyse Galvin's proposed education tax

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Lawmakers,

I am writing to let you know I support Alyse Galvin's education tax proposal.

D. Matt Duncan  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** Christy McMurren [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 12:37 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I'm writing in favor of HB 152. We need a steady income stream for education. Too much valuable time is wasted arguing every single year when the legislature can be working on promoting other sources of income. The days of counting on oil/gas for our livelihood are over. We need new business!

Christy McMurren  
Anchorage

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** Robbie Stell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 12:37 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Cc:** Rep. Andi Story; Sen. Jesse Kiehl  
**Subject:** HB69 Funding Education

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

The Governor has dealt a painful blow to education funding. As a 50-year resident, I am ashamed of the budget provided for public education in this State. Alaska cannot attract and retain qualified teachers at the lower grades OR the University; rural Alaska schools have teachers from out of country, principally the Philippines (and these teachers are wonderful and well qualified but may not become citizens and stay; the condition of our school facilities is also an embarrassment. I have public school teachers in my own family, I have grand and great grandchildren in this State, and I want to keep them here. However, in a State that does not value its children, or its teachers and professors, it is hard to keep them in a State they also love.

Wake up Legislators, fund the future of this State, and not a promise that oil "might" save us!! Those days are over. The brain drain is real; stop the bleeding.

Sincerely,  
Robbie Stell, retired educator, and mother, grandmother, and great grandmother.

Sent from [Outlook](#)



## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** Anne Brooks [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 1:10 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

As a 50 yr resident of Alaska, mother of two, retired small business owner, I believe we need to pass this bill and reduce our reliance on one revenue source. I support it because I believe our children deserve the same education we received.

Thanks for your work on behalf of all Alaskans. Do not forget to support them all

Anne brooks  
Anchorage  
[REDACTED]

Sent from Gmail Mobile

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** Judy Shiffler [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 2:16 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** House Bill 152 Public Education Tax

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I am a 57 year resident of Fairbanks and I strongly support HB 152 !!  
The payment of \$150 per calendar year is very fair considering all the other taxes we have not had to pay over these many years.  
There was a School Tax when we arrived in 1968 as young teachers. Our schools were amazingly strong and well respected.  
Along came the oil and that tax was dropped. It should have remained but now we have a chance to reinstate it.

I have always thought it foolish that all the workers that live out of state and fly in to work at lucrative jobs did not have to pay any taxes to our state.  
This HB 152 is a great opportunity to begin to rectify that issue.

Thanks for listening,  
Judy Shiffler Fairbanks

## Please vote to pass HB 152

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** richard stasenko [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 2:26 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** House Bill 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I support House Bill 152

As a retired teacher, parent, grandparent, great grandparent and long term Alaska resident I believe House Bill 152 will help improve education in Alaska's schools.

Rich Stasenko, resident of Shishmaref

Sent from my iPhone

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** Linda O'Bannon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 3:52 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please pass this bill and tax me! I am in favor of this bill for education funding.

Thanks,  
Linda O'Bannon  
[REDACTED] Anchorage, AK 99503

## Stuart Relay

---

**From:** Diana Johnson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 4:33 PM  
**To:** House State Affairs  
**Subject:** I support HB 152

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

House Affairs Committee,

I support HB 152 as a fair, effective, and efficient way to fund public education in Alaska. Our state's revenue from oil taxes no longer supports our state's needs, so it is time to seek new funding avenues. Alaskans broadly believe in funding education and many will appreciate the opportunity to help support children through contributing via a new tax. It is time to move forward with generating revenue for education through some form of income taxation and HB 152 bravely accomplishes that goal.

Sincerely,  
Diana Johnson