

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Austin Williams <austinew@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 11:14 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support HB69 and the \$1,000 BSA increase for our kids

Dear Committee,

I am writing to urge you to support HB69 and a \$1,000 BSA increase. Our schools have been neglected through year after year of flat funding that has failed to keep pace with increasing costs due to inflation. I am a parent of two children enrolled in the Anchorage School District (Ocean View Elementary and Goldenvue Middle School). My family experiences the effects of inadequate investment in our schools and education first-hand, and we are bracing for the impacts that would come if HB69 fails to pass. These impacts--including the loss of teachers, reduced health and library services, reduced class offerings, limited or eliminated sports, and others--are unacceptable. While I know there are many important issues facing our state that demand your attention, there may be no more important issue than the future of our kids and our public schools. Please support HB69 and a \$1,000 BSA increase for our schools.

Sincerely,  
Austin Williams  
Anchorage

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Sweet Feather <sweetfeather@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 11:11 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Please help! HB69

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB69 quickly and with at least a \$1000 permanent increase to the BSA and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education needs to be the first priority. Every child in Alaska deserves a quality education. Please pass the quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need. I urge you to support the current version of HB69, which includes common sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1000 BSA!

Sincerely, Karen Timmers

Karen Timmers PO Box 109 Talkeetna, AK 99676

Sent from my iPhone

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Anna Petersen <petersenak@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 11:08 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support for HB 69

As an Alaskan voter, mother, grandmother and retired school employee I ask you to show your support for Alaska's children and public education. HB 69, and specifically the \$1000 increase in the BSA, are crucial. The years of flat funding for our schools and the continuing negative impact that has had on our students has got to stop.

Our elected officials need to stand up for every child and fund our schools properly.

Anna Stensland-Petersen  
2040 Applewood Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99507

[Sent from AOL on Android](#)

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Amy <amyjohns@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 11:07 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** PB 69

Please pass PB 69 with at least \$1000 BSA intact. This is absolutely crucial to all Alaskans in order for this great state to flourish. We need to keep our educators and young families here in Alaska! Our economy will only flourish if every student has the benefit of the resources needed to learn and grow.

We are desperately counting on you to vote for education.

Thank you,

Amy Johns

(907) 830.5168

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Liesl Davenport <davenport.liesl@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 11:33 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** HB69 must pass at \$1000

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB69 quickly and with at least a \$1000 permanent increase to the BSA and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education needs to be the first priority. Every child in Alaska deserves a quality education. Please pass this quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need. I urge you to support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

Sincerely,

Liesl Davenport-Wheeler  
2833 Snug Harbor Cir  
Anchorage, AK 99507

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Jackie Cason <jackiecason@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 11:04 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** HB69

Dear Senators,

I attended the recent Town Hall in Anchorage this past weekend and listened to the citizens of our community plead for more support for our schools. I realize that many want funding to be tied to results, and I think we should always set incentives to do the best we can for our kids, but I also recognize that schools are points of intervention for other issues and are being asked to address many needs beyond the curriculum itself.

My three sons, all adults, college-educated, and contributing citizens of our community, came through the Anchorage School District. They received a quality education that prepared them to meet the challenges ahead. I see the students today, the children of nieces and nephews, whose schools are not receiving the same support my children enjoyed.

Please pass HB69 quickly and with at least a \$1000 permanent increase to the BSA and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education needs to be the first priority. Every child in Alaska deserves a quality education. Please pass this quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need. I urge you to support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

Sincerely,  
Jackie Cason

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Ian Blake <tele-skier@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 11:03 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Pass HB69 w/ \$1000 BSA increase

I write to you to strongly encourage the passage for a full vote in the senate of HB69 as is, including the \$1000 BSA increase. I am a product of public schools in Alaska and have chosen to raise my family here, including two kids that are just beginning their formal education. Everyone with the slightest knowledge of the education system or current events knows that our state's schools are teachers are struggling amidst continuing flat funding. With the turmoil and uncertainty of federal support for public education, it is more important than ever to provide all children an early foundation and opportunity to thrive.

Please do the right thing: fulfill our state's constitutional promise of properly maintained public education available to all and pass HB 69 with its BSA increase in full. Thank you for your service and consideration.

Ian Blake  
3131 Regis Ct  
Anchorage, AK 99508

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Ian Blake <tele-skier@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 11:03 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Pass HB69 w/ \$1000 BSA increase

I write to you to strongly encourage the passage for a full vote in the senate of HB69 as is, including the \$1000 BSA increase. I am a product of public schools in Alaska and have chosen to raise my family here, including two kids that are just beginning their formal education. Everyone with the slightest knowledge of the education system or current events knows that our state's schools are teachers are struggling amidst continuing flat funding. With the turmoil and uncertainty of federal support for public education, it is more important than ever to provide all children an early foundation and opportunity to thrive.

Please do the right thing: fulfill our state's constitutional promise of properly maintained public education available to all and pass HB 69 with its BSA increase in full. Thank you for your service and consideration.

Ian Blake  
3131 Regis Ct  
Anchorage, AK 99508



**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Nate Beck <beck.nj@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 11:00 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Senate support for Alaska's future

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 69 and the proposed \$1,000 increase to the Base Student Allocation (BSA) for Alaska's public schools. This legislation is crucial for addressing the immediate financial challenges our educational institutions face and ensuring that our students receive the quality education they deserve.

Inflation has significantly eroded the purchasing power of our schools, leading to larger class sizes, reduced programs, and difficulties in retaining qualified educators. The BSA has remained stagnant for years, failing to keep pace with rising costs. HB 69's proposed \$1,000 increase is a necessary step to stabilize our schools and provide them with the resources needed to deliver quality education. This funding needs to be approved and time is of the essence in order to avoid additional detrimental impacts on Alaska's education system, its families, and its future workforce.

As you know, Governor Dunleavy has introduced an omnibus education bill focusing on various reforms, including expanding correspondence and vocational programs, providing reading incentive grants, and allowing open enrollment statewide. While these initiatives aim to improve educational outcomes, they do not directly address the urgent funding needs that our schools currently face.

The proposed reforms, such as incentive grants for reading proficiency, are performance-based and may not provide immediate relief to underfunded schools struggling with basic operational costs. Additionally, expanding programs without first securing adequate foundational funding could strain already limited resources, making it challenging for schools to implement new initiatives effectively.

It is important to acknowledge the likelihood of a gubernatorial veto, as occurred last year when Governor Dunleavy vetoed a bipartisan education funding increase. To prevent a similar outcome, I urge you and your colleagues in the Senate to not only support HB 69 but also prepare to override any potential veto. This decisive action would demonstrate the Legislature's commitment to prioritizing education and addressing the immediate needs of our schools. While the budget deficit is daunting, cuts to education cannot be the solution.

Investing in our education system is investing in Alaska's future. While long-term reforms are important, they must be built on a foundation of adequately funded schools. I respectfully request that you support HB 69 and stand ready to override any veto that may hinder this critical funding increase.

On a personal note, my family loves Alaska and is committed to raising our family here and supporting the local community and economy. However, we cannot afford to stay in Alaska and sacrifice our children's future if the state legislature does not commit to investing in the next generation of Alaskans. We know many other families who feel the same way.

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Kelly Dodge <kellydodge82@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 10:59 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Constituent Support for Current Version of HB 69

***Hello,***

***I am a parent of a student at Chugach Optional School within the Anchorage School District. Chugach Optional is a high-achieving alternative public school of choice, and we are currently facing the loss of teachers and our librarian, which will threaten our entire program. Please support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!***

***I urge you to vote in favor of the current version of HB 69. Cuts to school staff will negatively impact students and the future of Alaska's children.***

***Thank you for your consideration.***

***Best,***

***Kelly Dodge  
907-947-9314***

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Kristjana Timmers <akkristjana@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 11:00 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** HB69

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB69 quickly and with at least a \$1000 permanent increase to the BSA and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education needs to be the first priority. Every child in Alaska deserves a quality education. Please pass the quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need. I urge you to support the current version of HB69, which includes common sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1000 BSA!

Sincerely, Kristjana Timmers, concerned public school mom.

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Tayler Tidler <taylertidler@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 10:58 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support HB 69 and Raise the BSA

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Tayler Tidler and I am a resident of Anchorage, Alaska. I spent 5 years working as an English teacher in the Anchorage School District and currently work as a substitute teacher. I am writing to express my support for HB 69 and raising the BSA by at least \$1000.

Recently, I subbed at a school where 6 teachers were displaced. Including one who had been displaced last year as well. I also was displaced my first year teaching and it is absolutely disheartening to go through and to have to learn the lay of the land at a new building and new classes. Please support Alaska's students and public education!

Thank you,

Tayler Tidler

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Amarin Pokrivnak <amarinellis@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 10:55 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** BSA Funding URGENT

To Whom it May Concern,

I am emailing you as a parent of a student in the Japanese Immersion program. The lack of funding in our schools is going to be absolutely devastating for all immersion programs in ASD. These programs are the best thing about our state's education system. If you do not approve a \$1000 BSA increase this year, Sand Lake Elementary will loose 5 of our 18 amazing teachers. This will make it impossible for our school to provide a Japanese class and English class for each grade. This means some students might have to spend the whole day with their Japanese teacher, learning English subjects from a non native English speaker. This will have long term negative impacts on their reading development. This is just one example of how the lack of funding will negatively impact the education of our children. I am also appalled that funding cuts will cut our school nurse for half a day each day! The critical medical needs of students will not be met without a medical professional on site during the day. This is just dangerous!

I urge you to please, save our schools and our children. They deserve so much more than what the state is providing them. Increase the BSA by \$1000. Invest in the future of our state.

Amarin Pokrivnak

Sent from my iPhone

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Christopher Clark <christowclark@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 10:53 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support for HB 69

Good evening,

I'm am writing in support of a full \$1,000 increase to the BSA for public schools. Public schools and an educated population both benefit Alaska today and into the future. This amount should not be decreased under any circumstances.

We can, and should, increase our state budget through a capped PFD and establishment of an income tax.

Thank you,  
Chris Clark

April 9, 2025

Dear Lawmakers,

As a worried parent and PTA president of two children within the Anchorage School District, I'm deeply concerned about recurring budget cuts that are severely shaping our students, staff, and school community. Our children's futures hang in the balance, and we cannot silently sit by as another year passes without the Base Student Allocation (BSA) experiencing an increase.

By endorsing the proposed bill to raise the BSA by \$1000, we can provide the necessary funding to maintain a robust instructional staff, reduce classroom sizes, and ensure that important roles such as our nurse, librarian, and Gym teacher are not reduced to part-time status at schools like Ocean View Elementary. Critical programs crucial to our students' comprehensive growth are also at risk of getting cut.

If the bill is not passed, hundreds of teachers—including two from Ocean View Elementary—will lose their jobs. Bigger classroom sizes will inevitably result, compromising the quality of education our children deserve. We urge our legislators to value our children's education as much as we do and vote for the increase in the BSA. Our PTA met last night and all 17 attendees had passionate support for this bill and the full increase of \$1000 per student. Please encourage your colleagues to do the right thing and make sure this bill is passed.

We have spoken to other PTA's around the district and have identical concerns and have joined us in signing this letter.

Signed:

*Carolyn Berg*

Carolyn Berg

President

Ocean View Elementary PTA

*Elizabeth Van Patten*


Liz Van Patten

President

O'Malley Elementary PTA

Audit trail

Details		
FILE NAME	HB69 - 4/9/25, 7:55 PM	
STATUS	● Signed	
STATUS TIMESTAMP	2025/04/10 05:45:25 UTC	

Activity		
	SENT	ptaoceanview@gmail.com sent a signature request to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Elizabeth Van Patten (liz.vanpatten@hotmail.com)</li><li>• Carolyn Berg (ptaoceanview@gmail.com)</li></ul>
	SIGNED	Signed by Carolyn Berg (ptaoceanview@gmail.com)
	SIGNED	Signed by Elizabeth Van Patten (liz.vanpatten@hotmail.com)
	COMPLETED	This document has been signed by all signers and is <b>complete</b>
		2025/04/10 05:45:25 UTC

The email address indicated above for each signer may be associated with a Google account, and may either be the primary email address or secondary email address associated with that account.



**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Jeff Dixon <jeffreydixon@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 10:48 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Please fund our schools!

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA - and nothing less. Indeed, anything less is an embarrassment and dereliction of duty to our students and, without hyperbole, the future of our great state and nation. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education should be the first priority for spending. A viable, thriving public education system is the only way to ensure a thriving Alaska going forward. My children (and every other child in Alaska) deserve a quality education. There is grave danger to lose working Alaskans to the lower 48, lose our most promising young Alaskans, and have no chance to recruit other young professionals to Alaska. Please pass HB 69 quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need.

Thank you!

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Katriina Timm <katriina@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2025 10:47 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Please Support HB69 with a \$1,000 BSA Increase

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I'm writing to strongly urge you to pass HB69 with the full \$1,000 Base Student Allocation (BSA) increase intact.

A \$680 increase is not enough—it amounts to a cut in real terms. Our schools are already stretched thin, and without adequate funding, we risk deeper consequences for students, educators, and communities. Claims that we “can’t afford” the \$1,000 increase are misleading. There *are* sustainable revenue options and funding reallocation mechanisms available—what’s lacking is the political will.

We need real investment in our children’s futures. Please do the right thing and support the full \$1,000 BSA increase in HB69.

Thank you,  
Katriina Timm  
Anchorage, Alaska

Mom of a Sophomore at South Anchorage High School and a 4th grader at the Highly Gifted Program,  
Rogers Park Elementary School

**From:** [Slater, Kristina](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** BSA!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 9:59:09 AM

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Dear Senators,

Please pass HB69 quickly and with at least a \$1000 permanent increase to the BSA and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education needs to be the first priority. Every child in Alaska deserves a quality education. Please pass this quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need. I urge you to support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

Sincerely,

Kristina Slater

4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

ASD (25 years teaching!)

**From:** [mary miller](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** HB 69  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 9:57:44 AM

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Increase the SBA now- support our schools!!!

Mary Miller  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Bolling\\_Kelly](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** BSA Increase  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 9:57:41 AM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-Symfi3gg.png](#)  
[Outlook-ecxinud2.png](#)

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Dear Senators,

Please pass HB69 quickly and with **at least** a \$1000 permanent increase to the BSA and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education needs to be the first priority. Every child in Alaska deserves a quality education. Please pass this quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need. I urge you to support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

Sincerely,

**Kelly Bolling**

Trailside Elementary, 2nd Grade Teacher



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**From:** [Jessica Willoughby](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Public testimony - fund our schools  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 9:42:01 AM

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My name is Jessica Willoughby, my family lives in West Anchorage – including a seven year old primary student and a five year old soon to be kindergartener.

We are a Chugach Optional family and picked Chugach from the many schools within the ASD family because we were drawn by Chugach's academic success. Fortunately, Chugach picked us too.

Chugach's success is threatened. We're at risk of losing teachers and other supports. Under state and local regulations child care centers are required to maintain a 1:18 ratio for caregivers of 7-12 year olds. What magic happens that our teachers should manage a class of 28 primary students? That my child would be in a classroom of 40 students next year?

All students need good schools like Chugach -- but it's been years without sustainable increases and classrooms are stretched thin (and leaking and flooding). The \$1,000 BSA increase is a minimum to keep schools afloat. Please fund our schools.

The Alaska Constitution mandates the legislature to provide for public schools. Please support this BSA increase. Thank-you for your public service.

Jessica Willoughby

Anchorage, Alaska

**From:** [Ailinh Tran](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on HB 69  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 7:02:15 AM

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Dear distinguished members of the Alaska Senate Finance Committee,

My main concern right now is school funding and HB 69. My family has been in Alaska for 10 years. My husband and I are both physicians and we know the importance of education, not only for ourselves and our children, but also for our patients.

We love it here and consider this our home but our primary concern about this state is the education system and the funding of our schools. We often talk about what would possibly force us to move out of Alaska and we always conclude that we would have to move if we felt that our schools were inadequate. I know we are not the only family who feels that way. I worry that if this bill does not pass, Alaska will lose more of its highly trained workforce and have more difficulty recruiting new staff. I can see how school funding will affect the health and welfare of all Alaskans (even those without children) by seeing how it will affect the workforce and economy of our state.

The workforce and economy of Alaska depend on properly funding our schools. It is unfortunate that the current funding does not keep up with inflation and the needs of our schools, teachers, and students.

***Please support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA! This is about the future of all Alaskans.***

Sincerely,  
Ailinh Tran, MD  
907-313-0135  
10540 Whitby Circle  
Anchorage, Alaska

**From:** [Wade Schock](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** HB 69  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 7:02:01 AM

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I am a parent of students at XYZ School within the Anchorage School District. We are currently facing the loss of teachers, increased class sizes, and elimination of some school sports. Please support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!



**From:** [Shevaun Hacking](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Increase the BSA now!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 6:59:32 AM

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To whom it may concern:

I am a 20 year veteran teacher in the ASD. I am currently the 3rd grade English Partner Teacher at O'Malley elementary. I have taught at O'Malley for 8 years, and my youngest daughter is enrolled here in the French Immersion program as well. O'Malley is my home. I have colleagues here who are more like friends or family. We support and celebrate each other in our personal and professional lives. We even spend time with each other outside of school. As a result of the disgusting budget cuts, my school has lost 5 of its 17 teachers. This includes me. Next year I will be forced to leave my "home" to start over in a different school. I've been told "you will have a job". Yes, that is good news, however, this is not just a job to me. This is my life's work, my passion and my livelihood. I have cultivated relationships in this school not only with colleagues, but with students and their families as well. I have also taken on many leadership roles in my school. This process is dehumanizing, demoralizing and deflating. Logically, I know it's not personal, but it feels like a punishment for the hard work and effort that I put in everyday during and outside of school hours. You know Alaska's public schools face a critical funding challenge.

My family and I urge you to continue to fight to maintain the \$1,000 Basic Student Allocation (BSA) in HB 69. This amount is the minimum required to prevent further school closures, program cuts, and educator layoffs.

A \$680 BSA is insufficient, leading to larger class sizes, more school closures, lost programs, and further deterioration of school facilities.

I understand that people look at the school enrollment numbers and decide what is needed. The problem with this is that there are real people behind those numbers. 42 is a number, which represents how many 2nd graders will be in one classroom AT THE SAME TIME next year because when you only look at numbers, you neglect the grade levels. Those student enrollment numbers aren't just divided equally among the teachers as your math wants us to believe.

Supporting the \$1,000 BSA is essential to stabilizing our schools and protecting the quality of education for Alaska's students.

I appreciate the need for a balanced budget, but eventually there are bills to pay and mouths to feed and nowhere else to cut. So you go get a second job. This is something many teachers are very well aware of.

So, maybe we should take back the tax credits for oil and gas companies. Maybe we need an income tax to increase our revenue from people who work here but don't live here. Maybe the Glenn Highway should be a toll road for those who live in the valley but work in Anchorage and therefore don't contribute to the cost of maintaining roads in Anchorage. What happened to all the revenue that is supposed to be coming from the marijuana industry? I thought that money was supposed to go to schools?

Thank you for your time and attention to this urgent matter.

Shevaun Hacking  
Mom, wife, educator, Anchorage Hillside homeowner

**From:** [Jessica McCartan](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB69 & \$1000 BSA  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 6:50:57 AM

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Good morning,

I appreciate your service to our great state and recognize the inherent challenges of working with a diverse group of opinions as you do daily. One thing that I trust you all believe in is the value of the children in our communities. They will be our future. They can hopefully help stop the mass exodus from this state and help build back its strong sense of community and shared love for Alaska. They cannot help do these things if we, as the adults in the room, fail to give them a decent education. Our schools are being stripped of teachers, librarians and nurses while being jammed with more students. This is an absolutely disservice to the children and our Alaskan community.

As a parent of a student at Chugach Optional School in the Anchorage School District, we care deeply about supporting these amazing, growing children. We are a high achieving optional school that would be decimated without your action. **Please support the current version of HB69 , which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!**

Thank you,  
Jessica McCartan

**From:** [Kumiko Helming](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Written Testimony - Please Read and Advise  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 6:41:23 AM

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Good morning!

My name is Kumiko Helming and I'd like to submit recent testimony into the April 10th Finance Committee meeting.

Due to time constraints, I was not able to recite the whole testimony.

Below you will find the entire testimony.

### **Testimony for School Board**

My name is Kumiko Helming and I'm the mother of 5-year-old Halle Helming at Chugach Optional.

It is our Kindergarten class that stands to be dissolved.

So, I hear that we want a future workforce!

I hear that we want teenagers who care about themselves and take pride in their work!

To do this - We must provide for them a space to grow in an environment that is proven to produce for them.

Just look at what our school produces! We have children who can square their shoulders and sit at our tables. We have parents who come organized, on time, and in numbers.

Our school lives and breathes and breeds COMPETENCY.

Board members- Isn't that what you want? Don't you see this return on investment?

At this time, our competency and our gifts work alongside this district and work alongside YOUR vision for the future.

Make no mistake, if you take away my daughter's kindergarten teachers, the professionals who don't just get down on her level- they LIVE THERE alongside her.

Every day they show up for her!

You do this, then you're hurting your claim to understanding and honestly you are demolishing your BRAND.

**From:** [Jesi Davila](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Please fund our public schools.  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 6:32:39 AM

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Dear Senate Finance Committee:

My name is Jessica Davila and I am the mom of 3 students in the Anchorage School District. I also work as a substitute teacher at my kids' school. Alaska is my home. I was born and raised here. When my husband retired after 24 years of active duty serving in the US Air Force, we returned home to Alaska to raise our family. The budgeting whiplash we have experienced over the last few years has been anxiety provoking, discouraging and enraging. I am in our school about 2-3 days a week and I see first hand how hard our teachers are working. They are invested in our kids' education. I want to see our elected legislators showing the same level of dedication to our children's education and our state's future. I have also seen the direct impact of insufficient and unstable funding on our school. It is disheartening. My daughter was recently diagnosed with epilepsy and she has grand mal seizures. Her last seizure was 30min and that is with the use of a rescue medicine 5min into the seizure. Due to winter weather conditions it took medics 20min to arrive. With these funding cuts, our school nurse will be cut to half time. If my daughter has a seizure at school, it will be the ladies at the front desk with zero medical experience responding to her.

Due to the instability in funding, we are losing good teachers. I just talked to one of our teachers who will lose her job next year because of the funding cuts. She started last school year as a long term substitute teacher because we had lost teachers from the year before due to funding cuts. Now her job is on the chopping block. She is looking for a new job. I hope that she will stay at our school if funding comes through but I understand she needs stable support for her family and currently that is not offered through public school.

Next year, there will be another increase in need for substitute teachers. Frequent use of substitute teachers of a classroom of 25-30+ kids is not education, it's childcare. I can give you dozens of stories about this. To make academic growth, you must have stability in the classroom. If we want to see results in quality of education then we need to fund it properly.

Please support a significant and sustained increase to the Base Student Allocation. I want Alaska to be my family's home generation after generation. I want to see our community thrive. Education is the foundation to this future and we must answer the funding needed by raising the Base Student Allocation.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Davila

Address: 4040 Shandy Ct, Anchorage, Ak 99516

Jesi Davila  
907-854-0968

**From:** [Robert Klieforth](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Please pass HB69  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 6:26:38 AM

---

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB69 quickly and with at least a \$1000 permanent increase to the BSA and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education needs to be the first priority. Every child in Alaska deserves a quality education. Please pass this quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need. I urge you to support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

Sincerely,  
Bob Klieforth

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Erin Weidner](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Please support the current version of HB 69!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 6:22:25 AM

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*Hello,*

***I am a parent of students at Chugach Optional School within the Anchorage School District. Chugach Optional is a high-achieving alternative public school of choice, and we are currently facing the loss of teachers and our librarian, which will threaten our entire program. Please support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!***

***Thank you,  
Erin Weidner***

**From:** [Mary Juarez](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Raise the BSA  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 6:22:09 AM

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Good morning,

I am a parent, teacher, and community member in Eagle River. The proposed cuts to the Anchorage School District are devastating. The role and duties of a teacher seems to grow every year, but the budget is not keeping up with the needs of students nor the increasing costs of running a district. The cost of running a household has not remained fixed in the last decade, so why would we think running a school district would?

My class sizes this year and last have been the highest they have ever been. If we lose the 3 teachers that have been displaced our class sizes will be insane. Children's needs are not decreasing and they aren't just academic. Then we have the additional duties required by the AK Reads Act. I cannot imagine what next year will look like with the anticipated class sizes.

Our kids need adults in schools. They need teachers, support staff, specialists, nurses, and special education staff. We cannot keep functioning with less.

Please raise the BSA by \$1000 so that we can continue to do everything we can for our children.

Respectfully,

Mary Juarez  
907-229-1510

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Mark McCartan](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Support \$1k BSA increase  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 6:20:12 AM

---

My name is Mark McCartan and I'm a parent of 2 kids, one of whom attends Chugach Optional in Anchorage School District, and we plan to send our younger child there as well starting in 2026.

I am writing to express my strong support for the current version of House Bill 69 with a \$1000 increase to the BSA. As a concerned resident of the Anchorage School District, I urge you to prioritize this legislation in order to address the ongoing challenges our district and students face.

Chugach Optional is an amazing school, which has intentional multi-age classrooms and a librarian who is the heart of the school. Chugach's model works, consistently producing test scores that are among the highest in the district and state. Most importantly, kids who go through Chugach emerge well adjusted and with a love of learning that sets them up for continued success in education and in life. Proposed funding cuts by ASD next year would result in the loss of two full time teaching positions, dramatically increasing class sizes and throwing off the ratio of classrooms such that our intentional multi-grade model would not work. We would lose our beloved librarian and nurse to half time, and we would lose Ignite, the school's program for gifted learners, altogether.

Beyond the terrible damage that proposed cuts would inflict on my children's own school, these cuts are impacting our entire community. Over the last two years, our district has been forced to close elementary schools due to insufficient funding from the state. Families have had to adjust to longer commutes, overcrowded classrooms, and diminished access to vital educational resources. The closures have strained our teachers, staff, and students, creating a ripple effect that extends beyond the classroom. The lack of adequate funding has placed our children's education—and the future of our community—at risk.

Increasing the Base Student Allocation through HB69 is critical to reversing this trend. This bill will provide the necessary resources for our schools to maintain smaller class sizes, offer more comprehensive educational programs, and ensure that our children have the quality education they deserve. It will also help prevent further school closures and support the sustainability of our local schools.

I urge you to stand with our students, educators, and families by supporting the current version of HB69. Our children's education is the foundation upon which our community's future will be built, and this bill represents a crucial step toward strengthening that foundation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Mark McCartan



**From:** [Mark McCartan](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Support \$1k BSA increase  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 6:20:12 AM

---

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I urge you to stand with our students, educators, and families by supporting the current version of HB69. Our children's education is the foundation upon which our community's future will be built, and this bill represents a crucial step toward strengthening that foundation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Mark McCartan

**From:** [Rachel Munger](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** HB 69  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 6:17:22 AM

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>

>

> To whom it may concern,

>

> My name is Rachel Munger and I am a parent of a student in the Anchorage School District as well as a constituent in West Anchorage.

>

> I was once an employee of ASD and moved back to Alaska to raise my child here. I believe in the quality of our schools but they need additional funding by raising the BSA. Put Alaskans first!

>

>

> Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Suzanne Smerjac](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB 69, support education!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 6:07:15 AM

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Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am a parent of students at Romig Middle School and West Anchorage High School in the Anchorage School District. Our schools are already struggling with the loss of teachers, larger class sizes, and the elimination of important programs and sports. These cuts are hurting our students and weakening the future of public education in Alaska, which weakens the future of Alaska.

I urge you to support the current version of HB 69 with the full \$1,000 increase to the Base Student Allocation (BSA). A smaller increase simply will not be enough to stabilize the system, restore the devastating cuts ASD has had to make, or prevent us from being in this same position again next year.

HB 69 represents a thoughtful, balanced compromise that includes reasonable reforms and broad support. Please do not settle for less. Our students, teachers, and communities are counting on you to invest meaningfully in Alaska's public schools.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Smerjac

99517

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Katherine Wood <katherine.wood@rocketmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 6:07 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Education funding

I strongly support passing HB69 intact. Our kids deserve a quality education. This takes priority over funding other programs or a PFD. I cannot take the PFD funding and use it to buy a quality education. Our schools and teacher desperately need an increase to the BSA. They have been making the best of things for far too long.

If we want to retain and attract a quality workforce, providing a good education is a key decision factor in where people want to live. As you know, we are losing population in Anchorage and don't have enough talent to keep our economy strong. There is a direct tie between quality education and economy in my opinion.

Please do right by our future as a state. It's in our education. Time to invest at a reasonable, not shoestring, level.

Thank you for all the hard work you do for our state.

Katherine Wood

Sent from my iPhone

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Lisa Wedin <lisa@wedin.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 6:03 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Our children are our future

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB69 quickly and with at least a \$1000 permanent increase to the BSA and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education needs to be the first priority. Every child in Alaska deserves a quality education. Please pass this quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Wedin  
Anchorage, Ak

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Heather Wilson <heatherwilsonflint@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 5:59 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** HB 69

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am a parent of students Teal Flint (8th grade at Goldenview Middle School) and Coal Flint (10th grade, South Anchorage High School) within the Anchorage School District. We are currently facing the loss of teachers, increased class sizes, and elimination of some school sports and downsizing of critical programs. Please support the current version of [HB 69](#) which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than an additional \$1,000 added to the base student allocation, effective July 1, 2025!

We owe it to our students and community to prioritize a broad educational experience, over other competing interests.

Thank you,  
Heather Wilson, PhD  
907-306-7152

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Amanda Dale <amandabdale@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 5:57 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Please get HB69 to the floor for a full vote (\$1000 increase to the BSA)

Hello! Our kids are at Spring Hill Elementary (Sen. Kaufman's district). Senator Kaufman came to our door at the last election cycle and said their education was important to him. I see EVERY DAY the incredible work of Spring Hill teachers and staff to do their work without the supplies and staffing levels they need, and with already-huge classrooms.

This is getting ridiculous! If you have not been in an ASD public school classroom recently please GO. But first please move HB69 through committee so it can get a full vote.

PLEASE. It's crazy out here and this is one thing you can actually do NOW that will invest in my community for the future.

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Starrina Gianelloni <stargiane@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 5:37 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** HB 69

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

I am a resident of Anchorage, Alaska with a student at South Anchorage High School. We are facing huge cuts due to budget shortfalls that will have dire effects on my student. If the BSA is not raised by at least \$1,000 we risk losing teachers, increasing class sizes and the loss of some sports programs.

I strongly urge you to bolster the BSA NOW and support the current version of HB 69!

Sincerely,  
Starrina Gianelloni  
Anchorage, AK



## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Erika Rhodes <erikarhodes907@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 5:17 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support education!

Please fully fund education today! Pass HB 69 with a \$1000 increase to the bsa.

Our kiddos deserve a great education: 3Rs, music, art, PE, and after school sports and other programs. And excellent teachers! You can't have great education without great teachers and good pay is essential to attracting people to the profession!

I have 3 kids in 2nd-5th grade, two of them have had subs for half a year or more due to a teacher leaving or the spot not being filled at all. Six months of subs = very little learning. We need better salaries to attract and retain dedicated educators.

Our system isn't broken, it is starving.

Please fully fund education today! Pass HB 69 with a \$1000 increase to the bsa.

Thank you for your work! And for investing in our future!

Erika Rhodes  
907-304-2301  
204 Gone Again  
Nome, AK 99762

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Tanya Pasternack <t\_pasternack@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 5:13 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** \$1000 -nothing less

**Dear Senators,**

**Please please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA - and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education should be the first priority for spending. My children (and every other child in Alaska) deserve a quality education. Please pass HB 69 quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need.**

**Thank you!**

Tanya Pasternack, MD  
Chris Robertson, Air National Guard

Parents of kindergarteners and 2 year old.

Anchorage

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Garrett Prokosch <ghprokosch@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 5:01 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** HB69 - Please Approve!!

***I am a parent of two students at Chugach Optional School within the Anchorage School District. Chugach Optional is a high-achieving alternative public school of choice, and we are currently facing the loss of teachers and our librarian, which will threaten our entire program. Please support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA! It is time to do the right thing for the youth of Alaska and support the future of our state. Please act now!***

Garrett Prokosch

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Jody Oyen <smoe10@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 4:41 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** 1K no other way

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA - and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education should be the first priority for spending. My children (and every other child in Alaska) deserve a quality education. Please pass HB 69 quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need.

Thank you!  
Jody Oyen  
Anchorage, AK

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Terry Pexton <tpexton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 4:20 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Increase the BSA

Please, please, PLEASE provide \$1,000 increase to the BSA. The future of Alaska depends on it... our students and educators are worth it and deserve it! Taking away programs and increasing class sizes is the sign of a shameful failure of society.

Thanks for your leadership and for supporting the single best investment in Alaska's future,

- Terry Pexton

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Brandy Head <brandyhead13@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 4:02 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** BSA increase

To whom it concerns,

My name is Brandy Head and I am a parent of a student at Chugach Optional School within the Anchorage School District.

Chugach Optional is a high-achieving alternative public school of choice, and we are currently facing the loss of teachers and our wonderful librarian, which will threaten our entire program. My son started kindergarten in September. He did not yet know how to read, but because of his teacher and librarian, he is now reading chapter books!!

We absolutely cannot lose our full time librarian. The care she has for all of the students and their education is irreplaceable, and her loss would devastate our community. I do not say that lightly. It would literally devastate our students.

It is your responsibility to listen to the wants and needs of the people in your community/state. It would be a mistake and a failure on your part to represent us if you do not support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

Thank you,

Brandy Head

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Liz <lizmrohloff@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 4:01 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Education Bill

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB69 quickly and with at least a \$1000 permanent increase to the BSA and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education needs to be the first priority. Every child in Alaska deserves a quality education. Please pass this quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need. I urge you to support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

Sincerely,

Liz Ciufo

Mother of 2 in Asd

**From:** [Vanessa von Biela](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** HB 69 Education Funding and Job Funding!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 9:01:24 AM

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Hello Senators,

I am writing today with a urgent request to support the \$1,000 increase in the Base Student Allocation.

I am a mother with three elementary school kids in the Anchorage School District. My school district will have to cut teaching jobs and increase class sizes. Our economy in Alaska needs these jobs— unlike other industries these jobs are all in Alaska and not taken by out of state workers. Thus, State funding for school district jobs stays in Alaska. Teachers buy houses, teachers shop in our stores and eat in our restaurants. I support tax increases if that's what we need to have adequate education funding.

For those of us that are not employees of school districts, the increasing class sizes and decline in quality of education will be factors that determine if Alaska is an reasonable and affordable place to live. My husband is a health care provider and his job is in demand in Alaska and other places. If schools continue to decline, we know he can get a job in another state where our kids can get a quality education. We have lived in Alaska for 20 years, we do not want to move. Please fund our schools so families like ours can stay in Alaska.

Vanessa



**From:** [Carol Bonney](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** HB 69  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 8:58:53 AM

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Our children and our teachers are counting on you to pass HB 69! How long will legislators keep underfunding our public schools? Adequate funding is absolutely tied to attracting good teachers. Lowering classroom sizes gives teachers more time to work with individual students, thus promoting understanding. Do your job and stop cheating our students out of the education they deserve.

deserve!

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Sarah Cunningham](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 8:53:00 AM

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Good Morning,

Alaska needs a strong foundation built on an educational system that includes immersion programs (I was in one, it was magical), sports, arts, and top tier teachers (that get paid what they're worth!). We need this to ensure long-term prosperity and a future workforce. Please pass a BSA increase; \$1,000 is the absolute minimum. We need this. The kids need this.

Thanks, Sarah

From: [Ashley Dwyer](#)  
To: [Public Schools of Anchorage](#)  
Subject: Please Support an increase in the BSA to Protect Student Schools  
Date: Thursday, April 05, 2018 9:40:21 AM

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

I am writing to urge you to support an increase of \$1000 to the Base Student Allowance (BSA) for Alaska's public schools.

Our schools are facing deep and unsustainable cuts due to years of flat funding that has not kept pace with inflation. As a result, students are losing access to essential programs, experienced teachers, and the quality education they deserve. These cuts harm not only our children's future but also the strength and resilience of our communities across the state.

I am a parent of one current ASD student and one potential future student. My older son is currently attending Rabbit Creek Elementary in Anchorage. His school is facing the displacement of three teachers and one librarian if the BSA is not raised. His current teacher, Rebecca Wicksch, is one of these teachers who is due to be displaced next year.

I have watched my son flourish in his classroom this year. He has always loved going to school but has never been interested in reading or writing. He is now able to read short stories with ease, write phonetically, and do math that as a six-year-old has not completely understood. In January his class was crowned by the senior director of curriculum and evaluation for the majority of the class scoring ABOVE average growth in reading scores for the second quarter. The potential displacement of his teacher would be a tremendous loss to the students and families in the Rabbit Creek community. This is just one small example of how these cuts will impact our community.

A \$1000 increase to the BSA is a necessary investment in Alaska's future. It will help school districts retain staff, keep class sizes manageable, maintain extracurricular and enrichment programs, and ensure students have access to the support they need to succeed. If these cuts happen I am considering pulling my son from ASD school to seek other options such as private school or homeschooling. I know I am not the only family that feels this way.

Please stand with Alaska's students, families, and educators by increasing the BSA by \$1000. The future of public education in our state depends on your leadership.

Thank you for your time and service to Alaska.

Sincerely,  
Ashley Dwyer  
Anchorage, Alaska  
Concerned parent and citizen





March 31st - April 4th

## Ms. Becca's Kindergarteners



### This Week

We are starting our new unit on: Taking Care of the Earth. Perfect time for earth day on April 22nd! Please remember that our field trip to the Anchorage Museum is this Thursday and all payment should be in if you were unable to attend this trip as a chaperone don't worry. We will have two more opportunities to chaperone. We are excited to no longer need our snow pants. Please send your kid with a light jacket, hat, gloves, and good outdoor shoes to play in. Please let me know if you need anything!

### Important Events

- Thursday April 2nd Field trip to the Anchorage Museum
- Spring testing dates: 4/23-24
- April 26th The Tortoise and the Hare field trip
- May 2nd the Alaska Zoo field trip

April						
4	7	8	9	10	11	30
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

### This Week's Learning Goals

#### Literacy

- Double letter spellings: dd, ff, ss, ll
- Digraphs: ch, sh, th, ng, qu, ck
- Review rhyming words
- Tricky words: one, two, three, the, a, and, blue, yellow, look, I, are, little, down, out, of, funny, all, from, was
- Change sounds in words to make new words: chlp, ship, shut, shop

**Knowledge:** Taking Care of the Earth. This activity will introduce students to the importance of being environmentally aware. Students will learn that the land, trees, and animals are all important in the production of food. Students will learn to respect the environment and to take care of it. Students will learn to respect the environment and to take care of it. Students will learn to respect the environment and to take care of it.

- Determine ways to take care of the earth.
- Interpretive Writing
- Vocabulary: responsibility, nature, soil, produce, nature

#### Math

"I can write and solve addition problems to 10"

#### Social Emotional Learning

"I am aware of where I can find help"

Vocabulary: Self-Awareness

**From:** [day\\_theresa](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** My JOB at ASD  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 8:45:04 AM

---

Dear Senators,

This bill needs to be passed for all the reasons below plus all the people's lives that you're putting into turmoil because you won't pass funding of \$1000 BSA!!!

Please pass HB69 quickly and with at least a \$1000 permanent increase to the BSA and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education needs to be the first priority. Every child in Alaska deserves a quality education. Please pass this quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need. I urge you to support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

Sincerely,

Theresa Day  
Paraprofessional  
Trailside Elementary

**From:** [Joe Miller](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Support HB69  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 8:43:30 AM

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----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Miller, Joe <[Joe.Miller@conocophillips.com](mailto:Joe.Miller@conocophillips.com)>  
**Date:** Thu, Apr 10, 2025 at 8:37 AM  
**Subject:** Support HB69  
**To:** Joe Miller <[jmiller300@gmail.com](mailto:jmiller300@gmail.com)>

Hello Finance Committee,

Please invest in public education by supporting HB69. Public education is equitable education and this is a pivotable moment to either invest in Alaska's future to grow a sustainable workforce and economy or divest from it. Keep public education thriving by increasing the SBA to at least keep up with inflation.

I have two children in public schools, I was born & raised in Anchorage area, went to ASD schools, my parents were both educators, and I believe public education created the environment to prosper right here in Alaska. If HB69 does not pass, my daughter's school will lose 2 full time teachers, 1/2 a librarian and 1/2 a nurse, which would increase classroom count to over 40 students per class, overhaul the curriculum and deteriorate the learning required to demonstrate thriving test scores.

Let's invest in a future that retains Alaskans by supporting HB69.

Thank you!

-Joe Miller

**From:** [Gleason Donovan](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** BSA  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 8:40:58 AM

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Dear Senators,

I work at Trailside Elementary, and I agree with my fellow ASD employees that the BSA needs a \$1000 increase and nothing less. In my school we had recently done away with teaching materials that were deemed unnecessary to our student's curriculum. The more funding we have to cover our expenses for the new material the better in my opinion. Thank you for reading!

-Donovan Gleason, Life Skills paraprofessional

**From:** [Ellis Amy](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Please?????  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 8:37:54 AM

---

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB69 quickly and with at least a \$1000 permanent increase to the BSA and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education needs to be the first priority. Every child in Alaska deserves a quality education. Please pass this quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need. I urge you to support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

Sincerely,

Amy Ellis

Trailside Elementary teacher



**From:** [Donaldson Karen](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Student BSA  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 8:36:23 AM

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Dear Senators,

Please pass HB69 quickly and with at least a \$1000 permanent increase to the BSA and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education needs to be the first priority. Every child in Alaska deserves a quality education. Please pass this quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need. I urge you to support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

Sincerely,

**Karen Donaldson**  
**Secretary**  
**Trailside Elementary**  
**(907) 742-5500**  
**(907) 742-5511 fax**  
**donaldson\_karen@asdk12.org**

[Trailside Website Link](#)

Trailside PTA Link

<https://www.asdk12.org/domain/6059>

ParentConnection

<https://parentconnect.asdk12.org/>

Scrib Link: <https://anchorageak.scriborder.com>

**Volunteer Application**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf2SM758xCY0fKbu7cYj6vdYGO4RRh7LFAqrCKaQDHMwPMg/viewform>

**Volunteer Driver Form**

<https://apps.asdk12.org/forms/uploads/Volunteer>

**From:** [Brandy Davenport](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 8:33:49 AM

---

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB69 quickly and with at least a \$1000 permanent increase to the BSA and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education needs to be the first priority. I have worked in the ASD for almost 30 years now. Every child in Alaska deserves a quality education, and I have watched the erosion of our schools over the last several years, as we struggle to do anything for our students due to a lack of funding and the ability to buy/afford supplies to teach them! Please pass this quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need. I urge you to support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA. After years of flat funding and no compensation due to inflation, this is the minimum we can accept in order to provide a quality education with the necessary resources our students need and deserve! Don't let us down!

Sincerely,

Brandy L Davenport

**From:** [Valerie Walsh](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** HB69 BSA  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 8:30:55 AM

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Hello,

I am a born and raised Alaskan that attended elementary through high school in Anchorage. Now I am raising my children in Anchorage. I hoped that my children would have more opportunities available to them now than I did in the 90s. Unfortunately, we are watching schools close, class sizes increase and extracurricular activities be removed. I have a first grader in ASD and in one more year we will have a kindergartener. As parents we are faced with so much uncertainty about our children's education right now.

As a parent and Alaskan resident, I ask that you please increase the BSA by \$1,000 as part of HB69. Our next generation deserves the tools and resources this increase would provide.

Thank you and sincerely,  
Valerie Walsh  
Anchorage, AK

**From:** [Beverly Cason](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Public Education Funding  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 8:28:29 AM

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Please, please increase funding for Ak public schools. If we want Alaska to thrive, and continue to develop we Must fund our public schools. It is of utmost importance to give our young people a good education (all students- those that are struggling to those at high levels). Please increase education funding.

Beverly Cross-Cason  
72- year Ak resident  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jeremy Petrie](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Support of \$1000 BSA  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 8:24:27 AM

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Please support a \$1000 BSA increase for our children. I was a student from k-12 of the Anchorage School District and am now currently a graduate student to become a teacher. Supporting a \$1000 BSA is so important to keep the success of the children in the Eagle River community and throughout all of Alaska. I was born and raised here and plan on helping educate the future generations. It is vital to educate our students are without a BSA increase there will be factors that fall through the cracks and be left behind.

Thank you again for supporting our public schools.

Jeremy Petrie

**From:** [Danni Hall](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** BSA  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 8:22:07 AM

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Dear Senators,

Please pass HB69 quickly and with at least a \$1000 permanent increase to the BSA and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education needs to be the first priority. Every child in Alaska deserves a quality education. Please pass this quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need. I urge you to support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

Sincerely,