

Stuart Relay

From: Haleigh [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 30, 2025 7:06 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Vote No on HB152

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hello,

I read through this bill and I do not understand how this is going to add to Alaska. All I see is how this is going to hurt, harm and impact the residents of this state. In addition if the State of Alaska can not work with what they have why should the public give them more. What are you going to do with this extra "income"? I did some research on how education was funded in the past for Alaska, it seems that the education system has been failing Alaska, no matter what money is given to it, the students still have the same rate of lack of success. In addition about 11% of Alaska live below the poverty level, with most people making less than 65,000 per year in Alaska. Even though to you \$150 per person is not that much, that could make or break a single parent home; a dual parent home with 6 children and or an elderly person on a fixed income. Vote No on this...being responsible with Alaska Budget...pay your bills from what you have just like every other American has to do. Rule of thumb...if you do not have it...you do not get it.

v/r, Haleigh

Stuart Relay

From: Evelynnn Trefon [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 30, 2025 11:40 PM
To: House State Affairs
Cc: Rep. Alyse Galvin
Subject: Testimony on HB 152: Education Tax
Attachments: Support Letter for HB 152.docx

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April 30, 2025

Dear Chair Carrick and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for taking public testimony on HB 152: Public Education Tax. My name is Evelynnn Trefon, and I live in Newhalen, Alaska. I write to you today on behalf of myself and my family.

I was deeply disappointed that the veto of HB 69 was not overturned last week. During discussion, it was stated that the override could not be supported due to the state's significant budget deficit. I agree that our fiscal situation is serious, and that's why I fully support HB 152 as a responsible way to create a dedicated funding stream for public education. We can no longer depend solely on oil tax revenue to meet the growing needs of our state. Draining our savings is not a sustainable or prudent path forward.

Since 2016, my community has felt the deep impact of statewide budget cuts. We've lost our trooper post. Our school year was reduced by 20 days. We lost our school counselor. Volleyball and basketball jamborees have been cut. We have a long list of deferred maintenance needs. All library staff and funds for new books have been eliminated. Our PFDs have been capped. Our school playground is over 20 years old and in need of replacement. And now, we face the end of LIHEAP and threats to Medicaid, SNAP, and other critical programs rural Alaskans rely on.

In August, our school district made the difficult decision to end the school breakfast and lunch program beginning January 2025 due to the inability to cover the USDA reimbursement shortfall. Like the State of Alaska, our schools have a revenue issue—but unlike the state, our schools cannot generate revenue on their own.

HB 152 presents a targeted solution: a revenue measure specifically dedicated to supporting public education. It's easy to oppose taxes. It's much harder—but far more courageous—to say, "We need to fund our schools, and this is how we do it." I respectfully urge you to take the hard road and vote in support of this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Evelynnn Trefon

[REDACTED]
Newhalen, AK 99606
[REDACTED]

Stuart Relay

From: Connie Markis [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 1, 2025 7:58 AM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Strongly in Favor of HB 152

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Our schools and our children need the resources that actually allow them to learn in a more equitable field with smaller class sizes and reading incentives.please pass this bill.

Thank you,
Constance (Connie) Markis

Stuart Relay

From: Thomas Baring [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 1, 2025 10:22 AM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Pass HB-152, Education Tax

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear House State Affairs Committee:

I support HB-152, the Education Tax bill as is, but would welcome reducing the head tax to \$100 and the standard deduction to \$75,000.

There are many reasons to support this bill, but I'll just name two.

Nonresident workers have had the privilege of making bank off of Alaskan resources while benefiting from our state infrastructure and services. I feel strongly that they should contribute to the state revenue stream. HB-152 would accomplish this.

And, of course, we must invest in the future of our education system to renew public confidence that we actually care about families and children. We must get class sizes back down and show support for our students and teachers. With this bill, we can regenerate the confidence and excitement many of us feel living in Alaska or felt in moving to Alaska, and which led to our commitment to staying here to raise our families.

I would be more than happy to pay an income tax, in addition to my FNSB property taxes, to support our schools, teachers, families and children.

Thank you,
Tom Baring
[REDACTED]
Fairbanks
District 35-R

Stuart Relay

From: MICHAEL COONS [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 1, 2025 4:04 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Oppose HB 152

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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My name is Mike Coons from Wasilla and speaking for myself.

I strongly oppose HB 152.

This bill will take money from my wallet on top of the 60% in property taxes for my district! BTW, the Matsu is the leader in education as to merit based student outcomes and less cost and more going to the classrooms and teachers vs the worse, ASD whom will be loosing 17 million dollars because they choose to push DEI, CRT, LGBCDQ. Since this \$150 per person is not by district that money then would go to the likes of ASD!

Why should S corps pay for education? Especially education of future employees that cannot read, write and do simple math. Future employees whom have been taught DEI and LGBCDQ which is victimization, CRT which is racism are not condusive to a free society. Individuals that have

bought into the above are detrimental to the goals and missions of any successful corporations and I would hope not hired.

This bill is being pushed because the BSA is never going to get to the level the makers really want! I saw a chart the other day that shows spending has skyrocketed from the 1970's and the outcomes of education have been either flat or in dramatic decline. I went to school from 1958 to 1971 and was a C student. Yet I had the knowledge to do my job in the Air Force and then to excel with a 3.85 GPA in college as a Paramedic, now we have Harvard having to have remedial math for new students!
No on HB 152!

Mike Coons
Wasilla

Stuart Relay

From: MICHAEL COONS [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 1, 2025 4:25 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Oppose HB 152

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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My name is Gail Coons from Wasilla and speaking for myself.

I strongly oppose HB 152.

For the majority of my life as a single and childless citizen, I've paid my share to education. Up to the past 5 years, I've been happy to do so. Please tell mewhy I want to continue throwing good money to education with horrible results?

The whining and snivelling from the NEA and teachers who make \$60,000 to \$100,000 for tenured teachers for a part-time job is maddening! This legislature has raped and pillaged the PFD to the point of little return for the citizens of Alaska.

This past year the liberal Anchorage Assembly added to the cost of living in Alaska by approving a tarriff to goods arriving at the port of Anchorage for a 1.1 Billion dollar bond.

The majority approved a BSA increase while being disengineous about that the districts will continue paying administration vs the classrooms. That ASD has 80 million reserve. Now you are asking for more blood and I am about bled out.

No on HB 152

Gail Coons
Wasilla

Stuart Relay

From: Sandra Garity [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 30, 2025 1:27 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB152

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Representatives,
As a concerned Akaskan, I strongly support HB152 and ask that you support it as well.
I am encouraged that a tax revenue is being proposed.
Thank you
Sandra Garity
Homer, AK