

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

JOINT LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON EDUCATION FUNDING



Senator Loki Tobin, Co-Chair

Senator Mike Cronk

Senator Jesse Kiehl

Representative Rebecca Himschoot, Co-Chair

Representative Justin Ruffridge

Representative Andi Story

December 12, 2025

Representative Sara Hannan, Chair

Legislative Council

State Capitol, Room 501

Juneau, AK 99801

Representative Hannan,

House Bill 57 authorized the creation of a legislative task force to examine public education funding in Alaska and provide recommendations to the Alaska State Legislature. The Joint Legislative Task Force on Education Funding has met several times and conducted site visits to schools to interact directly with students and educators. The Task Force is scheduled to meet regularly during the 2026 legislative session, and additional site visits are planned. These meetings, site visits, and discussions with families, educators, policy experts, and others will help inform the report and recommendations the Task Force is required to submit by the first day of the 35th Alaska State Legislature in January 2027.

The professional services contract under consideration will allow the Task Force to secure the services of an educator and skilled writer, uniquely qualified in Alaska education policy, to document the Task Force's work and assist in writing the required final report. We respectfully request your approval of the professional services contract between the Task Force on Education Funding and Matthew Turner, dba Concept of Degrees, for a not-to-exceed fixed fee of \$70,000, which includes \$60,000 for services to the Task Force and up to \$10,000 for expenses approved by the Project Director.

Sincerely,

Sen. Löki Gale Tobin
Co-Chair, Task Force on Education Funding
Alaska State Senate

Rep. Rebecca Himschoot
Co-Chair, Task Force on Education Funding
Alaska House of Representatives