



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
PACIFIC AIR FORCES

MAR 19 2009

General Carrol H. Chandler
PACAF/CC
25 E Street, Suite G-214
Hickam AB HI 96853-5420

Representative John Coghill, Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: IN SUPPORT OF HB137
Hearing: Fri, 20 Mar 09 at 0800

Dear Representative Coghill and Committee Members

Partnership and collaboration are longstanding keystones for military and local community support to Alaska public school students. In this spirit, I provide my support to House Bill HB137 "Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children."

HB137 is groundbreaking legislation written specifically for the unique requirements of a transient student population. Issues such as enrollment, testing standards and graduation requirements are addressed through the interstate compact. These types of standards allow a military student to progress without fear of having to reaccomplish work to meet a new requirement after a move. Additionally, this compact provides an avenue for states to not only establish this list of standards but to collaborate on future issues as they arise.

I look forward to increased cooperation with those who set policy for and educate our children in Alaska. The changes implemented from HB137 will directly impact the social, emotional and academic experience of transitioning students who attend Hawaii public schools.

I personally appreciate the hard work and dedication of all those involved with HB137. Thank you for your submission and continued support of our military families.

Very respectfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Carrol H. Chandler", is positioned above the typed name.

CARROL H. CHANDLER
General, USAF
Commander



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, PACIFIC
FORT SHAFTER, HAWAII 96858-5100

Office of the Commanding General

18 MAR 09

State Representative John Coghill
House District 11- North Pole
State Capitol, Room 214
120 4th Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Re: In SUPPORT of HB# 137 "Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children"

Dear Representative Coghill:

The United States Army, Pacific (USARPAC) would like to inform you of our support for the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children (House Bill #137). When considering the number of school-age military children impacting each state, Alaska has approximately 12,000 school-age military dependents attending public, private, and homeschooling venues. As these students move from state to state, many of them encounter considerable challenges when dealing with enrollment, eligibility, placement, extra-curricular activities, and graduation requirements. Often, military students lose course credits due to multiple school transfers and are often improperly placed in courses due to the varying school requirements.

USARPAC appreciates all that Alaska public schools have done on behalf of our military children regarding transition and deployment issues. The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children will only serve to compliment and augment what is already being done in the Alaska public schools. Additionally, this bill will join Alaska with other states in an effort to streamline the school transition process and create much needed uniformity between states.

For these reasons, USARPAC supports this compact and encourages the Alaska House of Representatives to pass House Bill #HB137. If you need additional information, please contact my Well Being/Education Specialist, Ruth Davis, at 808-438-4177 or E-mail nancy.ruth.davis@us.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Benjamin R. Mixon
Lieutenant General, US Army
Commanding General



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY ALASKA
724 POSTAL SERVICE LOOP #5000
FORT RICHARDSON, ALASKA 99505-5000

March 18, 2009

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

Office of the Commanding General

Honorable John Coghill
Alaska House of Representatives
House District 11- North Pole
State Capitol, Room 214
120 4th Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Subject: Support of House Bill #137, "Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children"

Dear Mr. Coghill:

The United States Army Alaska (USARAK) would like to inform you of our support for the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children (House Bill #137). In the state of Alaska, there are approximately 12,000 school age children of active duty military personnel. As these students move from state to state, many of them encounter considerable challenges when dealing with enrollment, eligibility, placement, extra-curricular activities, and graduation requirements. Often, military students lose course credits due to multiple school transfers and are sometimes improperly placed in courses due to the varying school requirements. The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children will help to ease this frustration and will aid military students in the school transition process.

USARAK appreciates all that Alaska public schools have done on behalf of our military children regarding transition and deployment issues. The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children will only serve to complement and augment what is already being done in the Alaska public schools. Additionally, this bill will join Alaska with other states in an effort to streamline the school transition process and create much needed uniformity between states.

For these reasons, USARAK supports this compact and encourages the Alaska House of Representatives to pass House Bill #137.

Sincerely,

Stephen R. Layfield
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding Officer



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY ALASKA
724 POSTAL SERVICE LOOP #5000
FORT RICHARDSON, ALASKA 99505-5000

March 18, 2009

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

Office of the Commanding General

Honorable John Coghill
Alaska House of Representatives
House District 11- North Pole
State Capitol, Room 214
120 4th Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Subject: Support of House Bill #137, "Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children"

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For these reasons, USARAK supports this compact and encourages the Alaska House of Representatives to pass House Bill #137.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Layfield", is positioned above the typed name.

Stephen R. Layfield
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding Officer



Kodiak Island Borough School District

Office of the Superintendent

722 Mill Bay Road

Kodiak, AK 99615

(907) 481-6200

March 2, 2009

Twenty-Sixth Alaska State Legislature
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representatives:

Kodiak Island Borough School District wholeheartedly endorses House Bill 137. A substantial number of Kodiak Island students come to us from the United States Coast Guard as well as the United States Navy.

We eagerly join this compact's intent to remove the barriers to educational success imposed on the children of military families due to the frequent moves and deployment of their parents. We will be committed to supporting and enforcing the rules and provisions of this compact. It is our District's goal to provide uniform collection and sharing of information; and to promote coordination, flexibility and cooperation between educational systems and families in order to achieve educational success for the student.

We thank Representative Coghill for sponsoring House Bill 137. His concern is for the best interest of the children whose parents are serving this nation with such honor. We appreciate their service and this bill represents a small token of thanks as well as removes several obstacles that are imposed upon their children during their service to our country.

Sincerely,

Stewart McDonald
Superintendent



**COMMANDER, U.S. PACIFIC COMMAND
(USPACOM)
CAMP H.M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-4028**

19 March 2009

Representative John Coghill
Alaska State Capitol
Room 214
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: **IN SUPPORT of HB 137:**
Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military
Children
Hearing: Friday, March 20, 2009, 1:30 PM

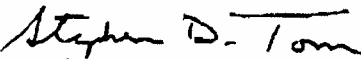
Dear Representative Coghill and Education Committee Members:

The US Pacific Command wishes to formally register support for the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children. With over 12,000 school-age military dependents, Alaska ranks 15th in the nation for the number of military students educated within the state. Representing the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard, the children of our military families in Alaska come from and move to nearly every state in the country and numerous US Department of Defense schools around the globe. Each year, approximately one-third of our children transfer from Alaska and are replaced by incoming military-affiliated students. Because of the mobility imposed on families due to assignments and deployments, our children face significant educational challenges including enrollment, eligibility, placement, and graduation.

The passage of this bill allows Alaska to join with other states to create the Interstate Compact, a program that seeks to remove barriers to educational success due to the frequent military moves. The Interstate Compact provides a venue for states to work together which allows our military families to fulfill the mission of serving our country without penalizing the education of their children.

I wholeheartedly support and urge the passage of House Bill 137. Thank you for all you do for the children of military families who, in their own way, also serve our country.

Sincerely,


Stephen D. Tom
Major General, U.S. Army
Chief of Staff

Louie Flora

From: Friedman_Jeff [Friedman_Jeff@asdk12.org]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 6:41 PM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Cathy Munoz; Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Rep. Wes Keller; Rep. Peggy Wilson; Rep. Bob Buch; Rep. Berta Gardner
Cc: Comeau_Carol; Siegfried_Robin; David.Shutt@us.army.mil
Subject: HB 137 Compact: Education of Military Children
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Blue

Chair Seaton and Members of the Education Committee,

I am writing to urge your support for this compact which will be heard by your committee Monday morning.

This compact will provide useful support to our military members and their families. Anchorage educates a large number of students of military families. Many of these families have major transitions during the year as parents are deployed or transferred to or from Anchorage. We work closely with Ft. Richardson and Elmendorf AFB to make these transitions easier, and this Compact will assist us in that process.

Jeff Friedman
Anchorage School Board
1534 D Street
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-742-4699 (Home)