



# *Alaska State Legislature*

Representative Peggy Wilson

House District 2

## **SPONSOR STATEMENT**

### **CS HB 215**

**"An Act repealing school experience limitations for salary scales provisions."**

HB 215 repeals salary scale limitations for hiring new out of state teachers, allowing for more competitive recruitment efforts.

HB 215 will help school districts hire staff for hard-to-fill positions. Specialty positions, such as therapists and special needs teachers are in high demand in school districts across the country, and we have a shortage here in Alaska.

Current statutes limit the amount of out of state professional experience that may be used to establish a teacher's position on the salary scale. Now matter how long they have been teaching, out of state teachers with a bachelors degree can only receive credit for six years of out of state experience. With a masters degree that is increased to eight years.

By repealing this antiquated statute, districts will be able to negotiate salaries on a case by case basis, this will help keep Alaska competitive with the rest of the country when vying for needed educational professionals.