



March 7, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

For teachers and education support professionals, student safety is always our number one concern. From the morning bell until the time our last student goes home, we are responsible for Alaska's most precious resource.

School zones are busy places, with busses and parents dropping students off and picking them up, with other children walking to school. Our youngest students especially are difficult to see from behind the wheel of a vehicle. That's why it's so important for drivers to respect the speed limit in all our school zones.

Too often, rush hour drivers prioritize their own schedules and forget our students' safety. House Bill 205, by doubling the traffic fines for speeding in a school zone, sends a clear message to those drivers: slow down or pay the price. Just as we double fines in construction zones and highway traffic safety corridors, we should make sure that school zones remain the safest possible traffic environment for our students.

I would like to thank Rep. Neal Foster for introducing this legislation, and the Alaska Legislature for taking the time to review it. On behalf of the 13,000 teachers and education support professionals I represent, I urge your passage of HB 205.

Sincerely,

Ron Fuhrer
President