Re: House Bill 5, Keller

Post Office Box 1623

Haines, Alaska 99827

February 2, 2011

The Honorable Wes Keller

Alaska House of Representatives

State Capitol

Juneau, Alaska 99801-1102

Dear Representative Keller:

I am sorry I was not able to meet with you during the recent AASB fly-in. I wish to personally express my support for House Bill 5, which you pre-filed. Although I am writing as an ordinary citizen, I want to assure you that I will do everything I can to convince my colleagues on the Haines Borough School Board and members of the Haines community to support the bill as well.

We have only to note the statement of a United States Senator that we have three branches of government: executive, house, and senate, to see the need for such education. Hopefully, it was simply an honest misstatement, but it points out the desperate need for a study of the Constitution.

Haines Borough School District is relatively successful. We meet AYP every year. Our students consistently score in the 70 to 80th percentile ranges. We believe they leave us prepared for college or career. But all of that is to no avail if they cannot be an educated electorate and exercise their citizenship intelligently. Some of us are working to make civics education a strand in our strategic plan. Your bill, House Bill 5, would go a long way in helping further that endeavor.

Please do not allow my peers in AASB to discourage your efforts. They are focused on funding, and although that certainly is important, what we teach is equally important. I will continue to voice my support for a bill such as yours and wish you success in your efforts to bring it to fruition.

Sincerely,

Carol Kelly

Carol Kelly

President, Haines Borough School Board