



Yukon Koyukuk School District  
Administrative & Support Offices  
4762 Old Airport Way  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

Kerry Boyd  
Superintendent  
kboyd@yksd.com

Telephone: (907) 374-9400  
Fax: (907) 374-9440

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Dear Senator Duleavy:

I'm writing in support of SB90 and HB196 the School District Health Insurance Pool. This would allow our district to offer our employees an insurance plan that meets their needs at a cost savings not available to a group the size of YKSD. The bill allows each District to choose the level of coverage they desire while retaining local control over premium cost sharing.

The YKSD Health Plan is currently self funded with Meritain as our third party administrator (TPA). Costs for health insurance have steadily risen from FY09 by over 42%. We are on track to expend nearly \$1,800,000 in FY13 for health insurance, a cost of approximately \$18,000 per member. This number represents 11.25% of our general fund expenditures. Cost increases for FY14 could be as much as 29% according to projections.

Being a rural district, YKSD has found that offering good health insurance at no cost to our employees has been a distinctive which helps draw and retain new and experienced teachers to leave many modern conveniences to move to one of our isolated villages. If costs for health insurance rise at such alarming rates as projected, we may not be able to sustain this valuable benefit. But with the cost containment and anticipated savings that could be realized in a large statewide insurance pool, we are optimistic that we will be able to continue this valuable distinctive.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our district's situation. I urge you to pass SB90/HB196.

Sincerely,

Kerry Boyd  
Superintendent