March 28, 2013

Legislature of the State of Alaska
Twenty-Eighth Legislature- First Session

Re: HB 190
    By Representative Paul Seaton

Dear Members of the Twenty Eighth Legislature;

HB 190 will assure that our high school students receive appropriate credit for courses taken at our University.

The receipt of appropriate credit is currently a problem. For example, an ANSEP high school student has successfully completed all of the university courses required for a degree in mechanical engineering. This is no small accomplishment. It represents five courses and 2.5 years of effort at the University level. Yet, the same student was informed that he did not have enough math credits to graduate from high school. This happens across the state. This also means that advanced students will not qualify for the full Alaska Performance Scholarship.

The problem is, districts have established a policy where students successfully completing a 3 or 4 credit hour course at the university earn ½ of a high school credit for the same or similar course at the district level. For example, a student successfully completing the four credit calculus 1 course at the university will earn ½ of a credit toward calculus within the districts. This policy seems to be based solely on contact hours in the classroom, not on content of the course.

Passage of HB 190 will provide a mechanism for students to earn the full high school credit they deserve for successfully completing university courses.

Please contact me at 529-4918 or herb@uaa.alaska.edu if you have any questions or need additional information.

Very Truly Yours,

Herb *Ilisaurri* Schroeder, PhD
Vice Provost for ANSEP and Founder
Professor of Engineering

Presidential Award
for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring

NACME
National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering, Inc.
Reginald Jones Founder's Award

Alaska Federation of Natives
Denali Award