

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#)
Subject: in support of house bill 189
Date: Thursday, April 29, 2021 9:53:29 AM

Yes, income tax is a good way to secure funding for education in Alaska!
Please, however, modify the bill to avoid having the tax burden proportionately heavier on lower income earners. If anything, the tax burden should be proportionately heavier on the high incomes. I am absolutely in support of my physician income being appropriately taxed for this purpose.

sincerely,

Anya Maier, MD

Lifelong resident of Juneau and Gustavus

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#)
Subject: HB 189
Date: Friday, April 30, 2021 4:01:56 PM

Committee Members:

Please support HB 189 calling for a modest income tax to support public education. I participated in our states past tax to support public education & look at this effort as a citizen's responsibility to support our youth.

Thank you.

Christine Niemi
Douglas, Alaska

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#)
Subject: HB189
Date: Thursday, April 29, 2021 9:20:59 AM

Good morning, I am writing in support of HB189. I don't like paying taxes, nobody does. But the free ride is over, and Alaskans need to get back to paying a modest amount for essential public services such as education, public health and safety, transportation, etc. I want Alaska to be an attractive place to live, and do business, in the years to come. Thank you for your consideration.

Glenn Cravez, 2810 Kingfisher Drive, Anchorage 99502.

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#)
Subject: HB 189
Date: Saturday, May 1, 2021 8:26:17 AM

I support a modest income tax for education. We have great schools. Our children and educators deserve it!!

Joclyn Reilly
[REDACTED] Anchorage, AK 99516

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#)
Subject: HB 189
Date: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:33:19 AM

I am writing in support of HB 189, this modest tax increase can help fund our schools. Alaskans must figure out some way to contribute to the state's expense. If we are not going to reassess the oil company's taxes, not institute an income tax, and not restructure the Permanent Fund, what ARE we going to do? We cannot cut our way out of this budget deficit. We are exhausting our savings. We have elected our representatives to steady the ship. So far, it hasn't happened and the state is headed for a disaster.

Janet Schichnes
Fairbanks

Sent from my iPad

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#)
Subject: HB189
Date: Thursday, April 29, 2021 1:13:15 PM

I support this bill as a feasible solution to address some of the issues that our state faces budget wise. It is a small tax on all wage earners not unlike the “school tax” of many years past.

Karen Miller

[REDACTED] Eagle River, AK 99577

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#)
Subject: HB 189
Date: Saturday, May 1, 2021 7:24:11 AM

Dear Legislators,

I fully support the passage of an Income Tax Bill that will provide sustained funding to support quality education for our children. It has been long in coming! Thank you for all your work to bring this to fruition. There is nothing I'd rather have my tax dollars support than quality education for all of Alaska's children.

Thank you,

Kristen Romanoff
Juneau Resident

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#)
Subject: HB 189
Date: Thursday, April 29, 2021 12:30:18 PM

Honorable members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

I'm a retired Alaskan teacher, in support of HB 189. By levying a modest income tax on everyone who receives income within the state of Alaska, this bill establishes a reliable fund for public education. Each year of my teaching career in Alaska, the staff of my school plunged into a state of anxiety in March, due to the unknown state of the education budget. Recently-hired staff worried they would be jobless by fall and parents became stressed about the status of their children's programs. Planning for the next school year was always a rough road because the administration was uncertain of available funding.

It shouldn't be this way. Our public schools are the future of our state and we should treat them thoughtfully. A steady funding source is the foundation for well-planned curriculum with supportive resources and staff.

I welcome a state income tax. A means-based funding mechanism is fair and should be provided by residents and non-residents who make money in our state. However, rather than a graduated payment schedule as is currently set in HB 189, we should ask taxpayers to contribute a percentage of their income to support schools. (As currently written, someone who earns under \$20,000 would pay 0.2 percent of their income, while a person who earns \$1 million a year would only pay .05 percent. That is not equitable and should be adjusted so those who make more money are taxed in proportion to their income.)

Thank you for considering HB 189. I urge you to amend it as described above, and to support the amended version of the bill.

Sincerely,

Luann McVey

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#)
Subject: yes, I'm in favor!
Date: Thursday, April 29, 2021 6:51:11 PM

Dear members of the Ways and Means committee,

Thank you for your hard work tackling these issues!

I am in favor of an income tax on Alaska wage earners. I feel that we can and should individually help to pay for essential services that make living in communities possible: full funding of Alaska's public schools is my greatest concern because of how positively this effects all of our futures.

Please make adjustments to the current plan so that our lowest wage earners are not paying a higher percentage of their income than the highest wage earners.

Thank you for recognizing the need for this shared generating of revenue.

We can and should do this!

--Nancy Lehnhart

[REDACTED]
Juneau, AK 99801

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#)
Subject: Income tax
Date: Saturday, May 1, 2021 5:12:01 PM

Yes, it is time Alaska have an income tax. We cannot keep cutting services. We need education and ferries!
Helen Alten and Tim Huber

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#)
Subject: tax for education
Date: Wednesday, April 28, 2021 11:35:22 PM

Dear Sirs and Ma'ams:

I support a reasonable income tax, for earners, to support education.

Thank you, Vicki Vermillion

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#)
Subject: HB189
Date: Friday, April 30, 2021 10:45:37 PM

Please support HB 189 and fund our schools appropriately.

Marla Statscewich
Fairbanks

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#); [Rep. Laddie Shaw](#)
Subject: Support for House Bill 189 (modest income tax)
Date: Friday, April 30, 2021 10:05:48 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a constituent in State House District 26 (Laddie Shaw) and would like to express my support for the House Bill 189 that proposes a modest income tax. Our state is long past due for an additional source of revenue, and I believe an income tax can be levied in such a way as to not disadvantage low-wage earners. Please help keep our state alive fiscally and move this measure forward.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely
Erin Whitney Witmer
[REDACTED]
Anchorage, AK 99507
([REDACTED])

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#)
Cc: [Rep. Laddie Shaw](#)
Subject: House Bill 189
Date: Thursday, April 29, 2021 9:25:07 PM

Dear House of Ways and Means Committee (and Cc'd to my Representative, Laddie Shaw),

I am writing to express my support for House Bill 189 that would enact a modest income tax for Alaska. We have endured steep spending reductions these last handful of years, and there is little left to cut that won't result in public outcry. Though I would prefer to rely on oil and gas revenues indefinitely, the time has come to finally reinstate an income tax. Hopefully, this will also result in Alaskan's feeling more vested in our state government.

One concern I have is that the tax is not large enough, especially for upper income earners, who can easily contribute more towards supporting basic services that we all rely on.

Thanks very much for considering my input, and please keep working towards long-term solutions for fixing our current fiscal imbalances.

- frank witmer

[REDACTED]
Anchorage

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Ways and Means](#)
Subject: House Bill 189
Date: Thursday, April 29, 2021 1:55:25 PM

To the House Way and Means Committee members:

In the 70's as a young person, I recall receiving my first paycheck and learning there was a deduction for something called the education tax. I complained to my dyed-in-the-wool Republican mother about it and she explained, "You are receiving a free public education and you need to make a contribution to help pay for it." I accepted that I needed to make that contribution for myself then and for others in the future who would benefit from public education. It was true 50 years ago, it is still true now. Please move House Bill 189 forward.

Tam Agosti-Gisler
[REDACTED]
Anchorage, AK 99508