

Representative Harriet Drummond

Alaska State Legislature

Sponsor Statement

HB 350

An Act relating to school bond debt reimbursement; and providing for an effective date

Since 2015, state of Alaska stopped reimbursing school bonds. They have, however, continued to pay down the debt from bonds passed in years prior. School bonds are vital assets to school districts to build new and keep older facilities running. Bonds pay for a variety of construction and maintenance projects, such as new boilers, roof replacements, security improvements, and more.

Currently the school bond debt moratorium is set to end July 1, 2025. HB 350 would rescind the date to happen on July 1, 2022.

The 2015 legislation decreased rate the state reimbursed communities to 40-50%. HB 350 seeks to increase the reimbursable school bond debt back to its original 60-70% effectiveness.

Alaska taxpayers and school districts can no longer afford to pay the full price for the much-needed maintenance and construction of public schools in our state.

I urge your support of this legislation and ask that you please reach out to my office with any questions or concerns.

Staff contact: Sarah Evans, (907) 465-6443