

RE: Support for Senate Bill 120 and House Bill 144, extending the life of Alaska's Education Tax Credits

Dear honorable members of the 33rd Alaska Legislature,

Education tax credits incentivize companies to invest in Alaska's education system, including K-12 and the University of Alaska. The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce supports Senate Bill 120 and House Bill 144 to extend the life of Alaska's Education Tax Credits program, which is subject to sunsetting at the end of 2024.

Currently, millions of dollars are provided annually to Alaska's statewide education system due to these tax credits. The beauty of the Education Tax Credit program is that businesses can direct funding to institutions and programs that align with company values and the specific skills that are in demand in that industry. A number of companies have used the Education Tax Credit program to show their support for particular educational endeavors.

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce proudly represents more than 600 members throughout Interior Alaska. The development of a well-trained workforce is one of our priorities. Companies can impact the development of a skilled workforce by investing in the programs and educational institutions that will grow the talent needed for the next generation of workers.

Our education institutions benefit from diversifying revenue sources, including increased investment from the private sector. Funding for Alaska's collective education system is the key to developing, growing and retaining the future workforce within the state. We are happy to see that Senate Bill 120 raises the cap on the total credit to \$5 million from the current ceiling of \$1 million.

Please join us in supporting Senate Bill 120 and House Bill 144.

Sincerely,

Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce

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Jeremy Johnson President & CEO

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Board Chair

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Alaska Airlines Costco Wholesale Denali State Bank Foundation Health Partners Mt. McKinley Bank

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