



## Senate Education Committee Support for SB110

**Lon Garrison, Executive Director  
Association of Alaska School Boards.**

**April 13, 2023**

Chair Tobin and members of the Senate Education Committee. My name is Lon Garrison, and I serve as the Executive Director of the Association of Alaska School Boards.

I am here today to express the support of the Association of Alaska School Boards for the passage of SB 110- School/University Employee Health Insurance, an act relating to an option for group insurance coverage and self-insurance coverage for school districts and other public employees.

**AASB's Resolution #4.8 RELATING TO HEALTH CARE COSTS AND MEDICAL INSURANCE** supports Senate Bill 110:

AASB calls upon the Governor, the Legislature, and Congress to assist school districts in addressing the cost of health care in Alaska in ways that are not detrimental to districts while providing district options.

*Adopted 2005*

*Amended 2010, 201, 2013, 2018, 2021*

*(Sunsets 2023).*

This bill supports one of AASB's three legislative priorities: improving teacher and staff retention and recruitment. Several school districts across the state have expressed incredible frustration with the ever-increasing cost of health care coverage, especially those districts that are not large enough to realize any benefit due to the limited enrollment.

Providing a voluntary option to join an insurance pool that should be able to negotiate better and less expensive coverage will allow for those retained funds to support student achievement while also serving school district employees more effectively.

AASB would like to thank Senator Hughes for sponsoring this bill as another way to support Alaska's public education system.

Most respectfully,

Lon Garrison,  
Executive Director, AASB