



Carayit

Joshua Gill, Principal
903 State Highway
PO Box 1468, Bethel, Alaska 99559
(907)543-1645 fax (907)543-1647



Dear Mr. Chairman, members of the committee,

I am writing in support of SB 140. I am deeply concerned about the lack of affordable internet access in rural schools in Alaska, particularly in Bush, Alaska. The pandemic has highlighted the importance of Internet access for remote learning. Still, the high cost of Internet access in these areas has made it difficult for many students to access the educational resources they need to succeed. The Lower Kuskokwim School District cost for internet is around \$53 Million. We are fortunate that 90% is picked up by E-Rate and another portion by the Bag Grant. It still leaves in excess of 3 million dollars that is paid out of LKSD's General Fund. That is equivalent to 25 teachers we could put in our classrooms.

I urge you to support funding for schools in Alaska, especially in Bush Alaska, to ensure all students can access affordable and reliable internet. This will not only help bridge the digital divide but also promote educational equity and enhance the quality of education for students in these areas.

I understand that funding for schools and internet infrastructure may seem daunting, but it is essential for the future of Alaska. Without adequate funding, the gap between urban and rural students will continue to widen, and access to educational resources will remain out of reach for many. Therefore, the State of Alaska must invest in schools and internet infrastructure to ensure that all students have access to the resources they need to succeed.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Joshua Gill
Principal- Ayaprun Elitnaurvik
Alaska Association of Elementary Principal President
Parent of 4 Alaska Public School Children

Doniece Gott

From: Kimberly Hanisch [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2023 1:52 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: SB 140 support

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to communicate my support for SB 140 and ask that you do all possible for this legislation to pass.

As Incoming Supt. of Unalaska City School District, I am more than aware of the potential difference this legislation will have on our students' ability to access digital resources in a more effective and productive manner, especially within the challenges in our current budget. As you may know, we are fortunate to have increased internet stability through GCI's fiber optics as we enter into the next school year. Unfortunately, with our constrained budget, we are not able to maximize the potential of that technology due to current limitations of BAG grant funding and limits of 25Mbps to be reimbursable. UCSD cannot afford to lose access to BAG funding to take advantage of the 100 Mbps opportunity that is now, literally, at our front doors. SB 140 will raise the cap for broadband assistance grants from 25Mbps to 100Mbps. This will increase bandwidth connectivity for rural districts, including UCSD, thus creating a more equitable education for those lacking access to the richness technology can provide to teaching and learning.

Thank you for supporting legislation that has a positive impact on education state-wide.

Sincerely,
Kim Hanisch

--

Incoming UCSD Supt.
[REDACTED]

Doniece Gott

From: Michael Baldwin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2023 1:56 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: SB 140

Hello I am writing from the Pribilof School District. I am the Superintendent and K-12 Principal. I want to inform you I support this bill as the BAG grant helps our District.

The BAG grant helps with cost with our E-Rate to provide reliable internet to our students. Our students rely on the internet to take online classes, research projects, work from home, and do their correspondence classes.

We are not close to the mainland, everything we order for our school has to arrive by barge or plane and the cost is very high. We are as remote and rural as it gets out here in the middle of the Bering Sea.

Again, I can't stress enough the importance of this grant for our school and students as it helps us get the internet to succeed in school, and allows us to use our general funds for supplies, and resources instead of all of it on the internet.

Thank you again for your time.

--

Michael Baldwin
Pribilof School District
Superintendent / K-1 Principal

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Email: [\[REDACTED\]](mailto:[REDACTED])

Doniece Gott

From: Jennifer Eller <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2023 4:00 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: RE: SB 140-Increase funding for Internet Services for schools

As educators in rural Alaska, we face many challenges that limit our ability to provide quality education to our students. One of the most significant barriers is limited access to high-speed internet. Despite its importance in modern education, the cost of internet access is not always adequately accounted for in the base student allocation funding. As a result, rural districts like ours often rely on programs like E-rate and BAG to cover a substantial portion of the cost of internet services in our schools.

However, even with additional funding, it remains challenging to increase our internet speeds to match those of schools in other parts of the country. For example, we can only operate at speeds of up to 25 Mbps, which is the FCC's minimum speed to be considered broadband. This puts our students at a significant disadvantage and limits their access to the kind of cutting-edge learning opportunities that are available to their peers in more urban areas. To make matters worse, our technical staff is forced to spend significant time and effort "sleuthing" our network to restrict access and ensure that the basic functionality of the internet is available to our students and staff. This takes time and resources away from providing innovative learning opportunities that could truly benefit our students.

Finally, limited internet access also creates significant problems during state testing, as we are unable to operate at speeds greater than 25Mbps. As a result, we must stagger testing start times and for the most part, only test one classroom at a time, which not only disrupts the normal flow of the school day for weeks but also hinders opportunities for advanced instruction. This situation highlights the urgent need for additional funding and support to help rural schools like ours meet the needs of our students and provide them with the education they deserve.

I strongly urge the Senate Finance Committee to approve Senate Bill 140, Internet for Schools and support rural education with the increase of BAG support to 100Mbps to improve internet access in Alaska's Schools and ensure that Alaska students have the tools they need to succeed in the digital age.

--

Jennifer Eller
Educational Technology Coordinator
Bering Strait School District
[REDACTED]

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Doniece Gott

From: Jamie Burgess <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2023 8:59 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for SB140

Greetings Senate Finance Committee Members:

I am writing in support of SB140 to increase the bandwidth and amount for BAG grants. As superintendent of a rural district, access to internet remains a crucial tool in educating our students and preparing them for college and jobs in the 21st century. So much of our access to educational tools and information on the internet is limited by our bandwidth, and it also impacts standardized testing. So many of our current district office operations have transitioned to online platforms, and any opportunities to provide higher bandwidth will have a significant impact on our classrooms and our operations. Parity for rural districts when it comes to internet access is increasingly important - while we have seen improvements here in our area, the cost and speed are not keeping up with what is available in our road districts. The BAG grants are key to assisting our rural schools with ensuring our students receive the best education possible and achieve to their full potential.

Thank you for your time.

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Thanks.

Jamie S. Burgess
Superintendent, Nome Public Schools
[REDACTED]

Date: 5/8/23

Re: Supporting SB 140: Increasing Broadband Assistance Grant Program to 100Mbps for Eligible KPBSD Schools

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

As the Superintendent of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District I write to express our support for SB 140 and HB 193, which propose to increase the State of Alaska Broadband Assistance Grant (BAG) program's support level from 25Mbps to 100Mbps. This change has the potential to greatly enhance equitable access to educational opportunities and the digital world for students in even the most remote areas of KPBSD.

Since its inception in FY2015, KPBSD has leveraged the BAG program to increase connectivity up to 25Mbps at six schools, totaling \$168,076.58 in subsidy awarded through BAG¹. In the same timeframe, these schools received \$1,298,986.91 in E-Rate subsidy, with district-portion of circuit expenses totaling \$424,034.48.

KPBSD has aimed to achieve a 100Mbps Wide Area Network (WAN) connectivity baseline for all but our smallest schools, where feasible, considering the persistent infrastructure challenges in remote locations. The proposed increase in BAG support through SB 140 and HB 193 has the potential to benefit nine KPBSD schools, namely Cooper Landing School, Kachemak Selo School, Marathon School, Nanwalek School, Nikolaevsk School, Port Graham School, Razdolna School, Tebughna School, and Voznesenka School.

The advantages of increasing the BAG support level to 100Mbps for KPBSD schools include:

- **Enhancing digital equity for students in remote areas of KPBSD and promoting equal access to the transformative power of technology and online resources.**
- **Empowering students, teachers, and school leaders in remote KPBSD schools to access modern technology, transform learning, create efficiencies, provide online health services, and compete globally.**
- **Leveraging federal E-Rate funds to provide KPBSD students and educators with equitable access to the digital world.**
- **Recognizing the critical role of reliable internet access in modern learning for KPBSD students.**
- **Potential to stimulate accelerated buildout of middle-mile infrastructure in support of increased broadband utilization at schools, which often serve as telecommunications anchor institutions in small communities.**

While recognizing the numerous benefits of expanding broadband access, we urge careful consideration in allocating sufficient funding to accommodate the anticipated increased demand on the BAG program,

resulting from a four-fold increase from 25Mbps to 100Mbps. Should demand surpass available funding, districts could face a pro-rata reduction in BAG funding relative to overall available funds. In the most extreme scenario, this might lead to increased expenses for districts due to reduced BAG subsidy coverage as demand outpaces appropriated funding. Although the impact of such a scenario on KPBSD is not insignificant, it pales in comparison to the potential consequences for other districts in the state facing telecommunication infrastructure limitations and extremely high costs.

Moreover, there are potential procedural challenges at the E-Rate level for at least two of KPBSD's most expensive circuits: Nanwalek and Port Graham. Each of these schools serves fewer than 100 students and has a combined pre-discount cost of \$187,500. Due to these high costs, they have repeatedly faced scrutiny under the E-Rate cost-effectiveness review program. Significantly increasing these costs to reach bandwidth levels approaching 100Mbps may risk jeopardizing E-Rate funding, as it could be deemed cost-ineffective. This necessitates a careful evaluation of multiple factors before deciding to increase broadband levels. This situation underscores one of the many challenges remote locations encounter when attempting to scale up to higher broadband levels without incurring exorbitant costs and highlights the need to modernize telecommunications infrastructure in these remote communities, allowing for increased bandwidth at more affordable prices.

There are also opportunities to further enhance the impact of the BAG program on Alaska's students. One key opportunity involves addressing the absence of a state-level E-Rate Special Construction match program, which currently results in missed opportunities for additional E-Rate funding for Alaska districts. The FCC E-Rate Program provides provisions to match state contributions for special construction costs up to 10%. When a state funds special construction charges to build high-speed broadband infrastructure, the E-Rate program increases the applicant's discount rate for these charges, matching the state funding on a one-to-one dollar basis up to an additional 10%. This approach has the potential to reduce cost burdens on local districts, modernize telecommunications infrastructure, and often decrease monthly recurring telecommunications expenses. While the current legislative session may not be the ideal time to consider significant changes to the BAG structure, examining the possibility of a future BAG structure or other mechanism that offers a state match for E-Rate Special Construction may prove beneficial. Implementing a balanced strategy that emphasizes both responsible bandwidth expansion using existing technology and investment in the development of modernized infrastructure will optimize the benefits for Alaska districts and the students they serve.

We urge the legislature to pass SB 140 and HB 193 this year and encourage future legislatures to fund this program at the necessary amount, enabling the Department of Education and Early Development to inform Alaska school districts that they can apply for 100Mbps support, rather than 25Mbps, during the next BAG application filing window next spring.

In conclusion, increasing the BAG program's support level to 100Mbps for eligible schools is essential to providing all our students, regardless of their geography, with equitable access to educational opportunities. Digital equity requires robust, reliable connectivity, and further improvements to broadband will help us achieve our goal of ensuring every KPBSD school has the access they need to provide our students with the education they deserve.

We understand that ensuring equitable access to broadband for all students in Alaska is a significant challenge, but through collaborative efforts and a strong commitment from the legislature, we believe it

is achievable. By passing SB 140 and HB 193, we will be taking a significant step towards closing the digital divide and providing KPBSD students with the resources necessary to excel in the 21st century.

We appreciate your dedication to the well-being of Alaska's students and the future of our state. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or require additional information about the impact of increasing the Broadband Assistance Grant program's support level to 100Mbps for eligible KPBSD schools. Together, we can create a brighter future for our students and for Alaska as a whole.

Thank you once again for your attention to this important matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clayton Holland", written over a horizontal line.

Clayton Holland, Superintendent

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

Doniece Gott

From: Cyndy Mika <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2023 10:24 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Lisa Parady; Sean Dusek
Subject: SB 140 Testimony from Kodiak Island Borough School District

Chairwoman von Imhof, Chaiman Stedman, and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Cyndy Mika and I am the Superintendent for Kodiak Island Borough School District. I am writing today in support of SB 140 and its importance to the schools in Kodiak who would benefit from having the BAG limit raised to 100Mbps. Our rural schools need digital equity in order for our students to have an equitable education. Our students deserve and need the full transformative power of technology in order to access their core curriculum as well as electives and special education services. Since I arrived in Alaska in July, I have visited our rural schools many times and am amazed at the quality of education we are able to provide them, when the internet is working - and even then, the speeds are so low, that many of the platforms will not work! Reliable access to the internet is a critical component in modern day education.

Kodiak utilizes the BAG to leverage e-rate funds and provide our students and educators fair access to the digital world. We apply for the discounted internet through the e-rate program during the annual filing window in March, which is before the end of the legislative session. Therefore, it is important that SB140 passes this year so that we can apply for the higher internet speeds up to 100mbps rather than the current max 25mpbs next spring during annual filing.

Quality equitable education requires connectivity and passing SB 140 will help KIBSD achieve our goal of ensuring each of our students regardless of living in a village or in town has access to our curriculum and educational services.

Thank you for serving our students and families and all the work you are doing for the betterment of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Cyndy A. Mika, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools Kodiak Island Borough School District



*We gather on the traditional homeland of the Alutiiq/Sugpiaq people.
The heritage and culture of the Alutiiq people continue to enrich our communities
and our schools.*

Doniece Gott

From: Josh Bullock 
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2023 10:33 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for Bill SB 140 and HB 193

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for Bill SB 140 and HB 193, which aim to increase funding for Internet services for rural schools in our great state. As a concerned teacher and advocate for equal access to education, I firmly believe that these bills would play a crucial role in bridging the digital divide and ensuring that every student in Alaska has the opportunity to receive a quality education.

In today's digital age, access to reliable and high-speed Internet is not a luxury but a necessity. Unfortunately, many of our rural schools in Alaska face significant challenges in providing their students with adequate Internet connectivity. The lack of access to reliable Internet services hampers educational opportunities, limits access to educational resources, and hinders the development of crucial digital skills that are essential for success in the modern world.

Bill SB 140 and HB193 address this pressing issue by allocating additional funding specifically dedicated to improving Internet services for rural Alaskan schools . By investing in our connectivity, these bills will help ensure that our students in rural areas have the same access to educational resources, online learning platforms, and digital tools as their counterparts in urban and suburban regions.

By supporting Bill SB 140 and HB 193, we have a unique opportunity to make a significant impact in the lives of our rural students and their communities. It is crucial that we invest in their future and provide them with the tools they need to thrive in a rapidly evolving world.

I kindly request you to consider my strong support of Bill SB 140 and HB 193 and to do everything in your power to endure their passage. By championing these bills, you will demonstrate your commitment to educational equity and empowerment of the next generation of Alaskans to reach their full potential

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for making a meaningful difference in the lives of Alaska's rural students

Sincerely,

Josh Bullock

--

Josh Bullock

Technology Director

Dillingham City School District

907-842-6777

Doniece Gott

From: Amy Eakin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2023 10:41 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Terri Walker
Subject: Increase BAG amount - SB 140

Senate Finance Committee,

Currently the NWABSD schools are capped with 25Mbps which requires us to throttle all use. 25 Mbps is less than one person would use in their home.

When it comes time for state mandated testing, we must be careful to only test a handful of students and a time and make sure the internet is not used concurrently for streaming or any other curriculum requirements or learning needs.

25Mbps does not allow our schools to come close to the [FCC goals from back in 2014](#) for student and staff access. It is time for Alaska to step towards where the rest of the United States was back in 2014.

Students cannot appropriately access education without adequate and affordable internet access in their schools.

I strongly urge the Senate Finance Committee to approve [Senate Bill 140](#), Internet for Schools, and support rural education with the increase of BAG support to 100Mbps.

Take care,
Amy

Amy Eakin | Director of Technology
Northwest Arctic Borough School District
[REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

"The child must know that he is a miracle, that since the beginning of the world there hasn't been, and until the end of the world there will not be, another child like him." Pablo Casals 1876-1973

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Doniece Gott

From: Cyndy Mika <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2023 10:53 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee

Good morning Senator Stedman, Senator Olson and Senator Hoffman, and members of the Senate Finance Committee:

My name is Cyndy Mika and I am the Superintendent for Kodiak Island Borough School District. I am writing today in support of SB 140 and its importance to the schools in Kodiak who would benefit from having the BAG limit raised to 100Mbps. Our rural schools need digital equity in order for our students to have an equitable education. Our students deserve and need the full transformative power of technology in order to access their core curriculum as well as electives and special education services. Since I arrived in Alaska in July, I have visited our rural schools many times and am amazed at the quality of education we are able to provide them, when the internet is working - and even then, the speeds are so low, that many of the platforms will not work! Reliable access to the internet is a critical component in modern day education.

Kodiak utilizes the BAG to leverage e-rate funds and provide our students and educators fair access to the digital world. We apply for the discounted internet through the e-rate program during the annual filing window in March, which is before the end of the legislative session. Therefore, it is important that SB140 passes this year so that we can apply for the higher internet speeds up to 100mbps rather than the current max 25mpbs next spring during annual filing.

Quality equitable education requires connectivity and passing SB 140 will help KIBSD achieve our goal of ensuring each of our students regardless of living in a village or in town has access to our curriculum and educational services.

Thank you for serving our students and families and all the work you are doing for the betterment of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Cyndy A. Mika, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools Kodiak Island Borough School District



*We gather on the traditional homeland of the Alutiiq/Sugpiaq people.
The heritage and culture of the Alutiiq people continue to enrich our communities
and our schools.*

KIBSD

Doniece Gott

From: Mark Walker <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2023 11:00 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for Senate Bill 140

Senate Finance Committee Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for SB 140, which proposes to increase the broadband share from 25Mbps to 100Mbps for qualified applicants in school districts across Alaska. As a concerned citizen, Director of Technology, and advocate for quality education, I believe this bill is an essential step towards ensuring that our schools have the necessary resources to provide the best possible learning environment for our students.

In today's rapidly evolving digital landscape, having access to high-speed Internet is no longer a luxury but a necessity for our schools. The current 25Mbps broadband share is insufficient to meet the growing demands of modern education, including conducting state-required testing efficiently. By increasing the broadband share to 100Mbps, this legislation will empower our schools to make full use of digital resources, thereby enhancing the overall learning experience for our students.

Schools with limited Internet access struggle to provide students with the tools they need to develop critical skills, such as digital literacy and problem-solving. As a result, these students may find it difficult to compete with their peers on a local, national, and global scale. By investing in improved broadband access for our school districts, we can help bridge the digital divide, fostering a more inclusive and equitable educational environment.

Furthermore, the increased broadband capacity will enable teachers to access and utilize innovative teaching methods, such as videoconferencing and online collaboration, to enhance their instructional techniques. This, in turn, will help better prepare our students for the demands of the 21st-century workforce.

In conclusion, I urge you to support SB 140 and invest in the future of our state's education system. By increasing the broadband share for qualified applicants, we can provide our schools with the resources necessary to ensure that every student has access to a high-quality education that meets the challenges of our digital age.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope that you will recognize the importance of this legislation and give it your full support.

Sincerely,

Mark Walker

Technology Director
Skagway School District
[REDACTED]



THE LAKE AND PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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(907) 313-3841

1617 S. Industrial Way #1
Palmer, AK 99645
(907) 745-7090



May 8, 2023

Senate Finance
Senator Lyman Hoffman, Co-Chair
Senator Bert Stedman, Co-Chair
Senator Donald Olson, Co-Chair

RE: SB140 Broadband Assistance Grant

Co-Chairs and Committee Members:

Lake and Peninsula School District is in support of SB140 to increase the level of internet bandwidth in the Broadband Assistance Grant from 25Mbps to 100Mbps.

Access to internet services in excess of 25Mbps are now available to the Lake and Peninsula Borough School District communities. Increased competition and bandwidth through the launch of low earth orbit satellites provides the option to increase bandwidth for our students. Anticipated launch of mid earth orbit satellites will further expand availability in our communities.

So much education relies on internet access from state testing to live textbook links and resources. The expansion of the Broadband Assistance Grant service level support will improve student instruction and learning.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at 907-745-7090 or via email at lhylton@lpsd.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laura Hylton".

Laura Hylton
Business Manager

cc Kasie Luke, Superintendent
Sam Rigby, Systems Analyst

Doniece Gott

From: Jon KludtPainter <jpainter@pcsd.us>
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2023 11:23 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Increase BAG amount - SB 140

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to bring your attention to the issue of inadequate internet access in areas with limited options for the internet. For Petersburg School District, we can access fiber directly to our buildings, giving us access to high-speed internet. Other schools in our state aren't so lucky; some schools operate with a meager 25Mbps cap, necessitating strict throttling measures. It is important to note that this speed is significantly lower than what an average household would require.

During state-mandated testing, these districts face numerous challenges. They can only test a limited number of students at a time while ensuring that the internet is not simultaneously used for streaming or other curriculum-related activities. Such limitations hinder our ability to provide an optimal learning experience for our students.

Regrettably, the current 25Mbps capacity falls far short of the goals set by the FCC back in 2014 for student and staff access. It is time for Alaska to bridge this gap and align with the standards the rest of the United States achieved almost a decade ago.

With adequate and affordable internet access in our schools, students can access education appropriately. This disparity puts them at a significant disadvantage compared to their counterparts in areas with better connectivity.

Because of these pressing concerns, I strongly urge the Senate Finance Committee to approve Senate Bill 140, the Internet for Schools initiative. This bill seeks to support rural education by increasing BAG (Broadband Assistance Grant) support to a minimum of 100Mbps. By passing this bill, you will empower our schools and ensure students receive the quality education they deserve.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Your support in addressing this issue will make a profound difference in our student's lives and contribute to advancing education in our state.
Sincerely,

Jon Kludt-Painter
Technology Coordinator at Petersburg School District
[Mr. Kludt-Painters Conference Room](#)

Learning is King. Growth is Queen. "Cool" is the court jester. The jester is technology. And the jester has

value, but don't put him in charge of the kingdom.-
Bold School- Kieschnick, Weston

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Apple Certified Apple Technician

Degree M.Ed. Educational Technology K-12

Currently reading Bold School- Kieschnick, Weston

Skype jonpainter



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 Tech Support [Submit a Ticket](#)

Doniece Gott

From: Reggie Santos [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2023 11:34 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Letter of support to Raising the cap for BAG to 100Mbps

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for increasing the cap on broadband assistance grants from 25Mbps to 100Mbps in the North Slope Borough. As an educator in this community, I have seen the devastating effects of inadequate broadband access on our student's education and future prospects. Increasing the cap on broadband assistance grants is an urgent and necessary step to help bridge the digital divide and give our students the resources they need to succeed.

The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the vital role that broadband access plays in enabling remote work, distance learning, and telemedicine. Unfortunately, many rural and remote communities, including the North Slope Borough, still lack reliable and affordable broadband infrastructure. As a result, our students have struggled to access online learning resources and participate in remote learning programs.

As evidenced by the low testing scores throughout rural Alaska are a clear indication of the need for improved broadband access. Without high-speed internet, our students are unable to take advantage of the full range of educational resources available online. Moreover, we are not achieving the FCC's goal of 1Mbps per student, which is critical to ensuring that our students are prepared for the digital future.

Raising the cap on broadband assistance grants to 100Mbps would be a significant step forward in improving educational outcomes in the North Slope Borough. This funding would enable us to invest in the necessary infrastructure to provide reliable and affordable broadband access to all households and businesses in our community. This, in turn, would help our students to access the online learning resources they need to succeed and prepare for the future.

I urge you to support this increase in funding for broadband assistance grants. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Reggie Santos
North Slope Borough School District
Director of Information Technology

[REDACTED]
reggie.santos@nsb.edu

