

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

HOUSE FINANCE
•
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET
AND AUDIT
•
ETHICS (ALTERNATE)
•
FINANCE
SUBCOMMITTEES:
Courts and Department of
Law
Health, Family and
Community Services
University



CAMPBELL PARK
•
DIMOND BUSINESS
DISTRICT
•
EAST SAND LAKE
•
MIDTOWN
•
TAKU-CAMPBELL

REPRESENTATIVE ANDY JOSEPHSON

HCR 14

“Supporting the creation of a school of law within the University of Alaska.”

Alaska is the only state in the United States that does not have a law school and yet we have a unique legal landscape including disputes around extracting resources, commercial and recreational fishing, tribal sovereignty, and subsistence rights.

The Alaska Department of Administration in a February House Finance Subcommittee meeting stated that a lack of a law school in Alaska has made it difficult to recruit interns. A Diversity Commission of members of the Alaska Bar showed that members responded that representation matters in the practice of law, yet there is no law school in Alaska, meaning few Alaskans will attend law school and return to practice in Alaska.

The University of Alaska Anchorage, the University of Alaska Southeast, and the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and Alaska Pacific University, all have partnerships with law schools in the Lower 48. These partnerships allow Alaskans to study part-time in Alaska and travel to an Outside law school for classroom sessions. This is a temporary fix to the problem that we face in this state; no established law school at our state university to nurture and develop home-grown lawyers with an understanding of our unique legal challenges and who represent our diverse communities.

I encourage members to join me in supporting HCR 14.

January-May: State Capitol, Room 432, Juneau, Alaska 99801 • (907) 465-4939 • (800) 465-4939

June-December: 1500 W Benson Blvd, Room 312, Anchorage, Alaska 99503 • (907) 269-0265

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