

HB

492

TELEGRAM

HOA ALASKA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

PHONE: 586-6440

JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

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12065 NL FAIRBANKS ALASKA 131 05-09 145P ADT

PMS REP CHARLES PARR

JUN

AS WE APPROACH VERY CRITICAL TIME IN THE LEGISLATURE WITH RESPECT TO BINDING ARBITRATION IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR, WE AGAIN URGE YOU TO OPPOSE BINDING ARBITRATION-BY TEACHERS UNIONS. YOU REPRESENT AN AREA WHICH SPOKE LOUDLY AND CLEARLY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SENATE BILL 35 CONCERNING LOCAL CONTROL. DONT ALLOW THE LOCAL CONTROL TO BE SHIFTED TO A THIRD, UNINTERESTED PARTY. YOUR LOCAL ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES ARE THE PEOPLE WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OPERATION OF YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICTS, INCLUDING THE FINANCIAL ASPECTS. TEACHER ORGANIZATIONS HAVE CERTAINLY SCORED LARGE FINANCIAL GAINS OVER THE LAST TEN YEARS UNDER THE EXISTING LAW AND THE ABSENCE OF STRIKE BY PUBLIC EMPLOYEES WOULD SEEM TO INDICATE THAT THE PROCESS IS WORKING. WE AGAIN URGE YOUR OPPOSITION TO ANY LEGISLATION EMBODYING THIS CONCEPT.

CARL A PETERSON SUPT OF SCHOOLS ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

1978 MAY 9 PM 8 22

HB 492 file



NEA - ALASKA

(ALASKA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION)
AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

*HB 492
file*

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PROPOSED BINDING ARBITRATION LEGISLATION

Major Features

Page 1. Lines 8 to 21

Provides schedule for arbitration to begin. Provides item by item last best offer on items at impasse with final package selection by the arbitrator. The arbitrator's decision is final and binding.

Page 1. Lines 22 to 29

Provides for selection of arbitrator either by mutual agreement or by the American Arbitration Association of an Alaskan Arbitrator.

Page 2. Lines 1 to 4

Limits the award power of the arbitrator so that there is no required local tax rate increase or any required increase in state funding to an REAA.

Page 2. Lines 5 to 29 and

Page 3. Lines 1 to 26

Provides for elections in municipalities and REAA's on the acceptance of binding arbitration, provides for a petition process to get the question on the ballot, either initially or to change the status at a subsequent election.

Page 3. Lines 21 to 27

Provides that if binding arbitration has been selected, teachers may not engage in a strike. If binding arbitration has been rejected, the teachers may strike.

Page 3. Lines 29 to line 4, Page 4.

Changes the current law and provides that the initial negotiation session and all binding arbitration sessions are to be open to the public.

Page 4. Line 5

Repeals the provision that the Governor may appoint advisory arbitrators. (No longer needed if this bill is enacted.)

Page 4. Lines 6 to 29 and

Page 5. Lines 1 to 24

Provides for elections in all school districts and REAA's at the next regular school election on the issue of binding arbitration and provides the ballot language.

Page 5. Line 5

Provides that this act takes effect July 1, 1978.

UNALASKA CITY SCHOOL

UNALASKA, ALASKA
99685

WILLIAM R. GREGORY
SUPERINTENDENT

(907) 581-1222

April 26, 1978

Mr. Delmar Olsen
Unalaska, Alaska 99685

Dear Mr. Olsen;

Your employment as a teacher in the Unalaska City School District is being terminated as of May 31, 1978. All the District's first year teachers are receiving this notification of non-retention.

This action is necessary because Alaska Statute 14.20.145 provides that unless a non-tenured teacher receives such notification of non-retention by the last day of the school year, he or she is automatically reemployed for the ensuing year. Further, the negotiated agreement between the Unalaska Education Association and the Board provides that teachers completing their first year in this district shall be given such notice by May 1.

Since the negotiations process has not resulted in agreement between the Association and the Board, and it is impossible to establish what next year's personnel costs might be, the board and administration cannot at this time determine the number of teachers the 1978-79 budget will fund. Therefore this action has been deemed necessary.

From a very practical standpoint, most and perhaps all of the non-tenured teachers released by this action will subsequently be offered employment for the 1978-79 school year, but a decision on this cannot be made until 1978-79 personnel costs are known to the board.

Depending upon the total cost of whatever negotiated settlement is reached, the budget for 1978-79 may fund fewer teacher positions than the 1977-78 budget. Since the board has not yet addressed the question of what 1978-79 programs may have to be curtailed (in the event the number of staff positions must be reduced) it cannot at this time determine next year's staffing needs with sufficient precision to allow all of the district's 1977-78 teachers to be automatically continued into the 1978-79 school year.

We truly regret the uncertainty that this action will bring to all of us and pledge that the board and administration will make every effort to resolve these matters at the earliest possible date.

Sincerely,

William R. Gregory
William R. Gregory
Superintendent

ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 226
Tok, Alaska 99780

Charles Parr, Chairman
House HESS Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

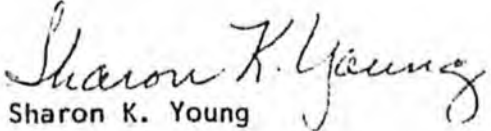
May 17, 1978

Dear Representative Parr:

In considering upcoming legislation on binding arbitration, please keep in mind that school boards are elected to represent the public's best interest in the management of their schools. Boards must consider not only teachers' financial needs but also the schools' financial needs. Aside from finances, an unwise decision by an arbitrator in the area of management could have a directly negative effect on the quality of the education we are trying to offer.

As a board member, I feel that imposing binding arbitration on public sector bargaining would erode school board responsibility to the point of uselessness. We realize the ultimate importance of teachers to our educational program and recognize their personal needs as members of our community, but we also feel a strong responsibility to our students. Please let us retain that responsibility. I would ask you to oppose binding arbitration in any form.

Sincerely,


Sharon K. Young
President of the
Regional School Board

SKY/pc

Dot Lake

•Eagle

Mentasta

Northway

Tok