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STATE OF ALASKA

Legislative Affairs Agency

LEGISLATIVE INTERIM ACTIVITIES

* * *

OTHER INTERIM OR SPECIAL ACTIVITIES
INVOLVING
LEGISLATOR PARTICIPATION

* * *

PERMANENT COMMITTEES, AGENCIES AND OTHER OFFICES

AUGUST

1977

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM (Financing)

Term: July 1, 1977 - January 9, 1978

Purpose: The committee will study, review and try to determine the justification for continued financing of adult and vocational education programs; evaluate the standard and special educational programs and their accreditation, including bilingual programs.

Committee Address and Telephone Number:

528 West Fifth Street (907) 276-1715
Room 210
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Committee Chairman: Representative Thelma Buchholdt

Committee Members: Representative Sam Cotten
Senator Chancy Croft

Committee Staff Employees and Telephone Numbers:

Kathryn Ostrosky 528 West Fifth Street
Room 210
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 276-1715

Legislative Affairs Agency Staff Support:

Richard A. Bradley, Staff Attorney
Alan Latham, Research Analyst



JUNEAU ALASKA

Alaska State Legislature House

March 25, 1977

Representative Mike Miller,
Chairman
Legislative Council

Dear Mike:

Enclosed is the outline of the project that I would like to work on during the interim. Although there isn't much vocal political discussion over these issues at present, these programs under the Department of Education take up 32% to 35% of the total state budget (the House is proposing the following DOE budget for fiscal year 1978: Operating: \$311,480,300; Capital: \$1,176,500), and because of that, I would like to conduct a quiet assessment and review of these programs to get a better view of their operations and program direction and goals.

I would like to ask you and the members of the Legislative Council to consider this project proposal and the companion budget request at the next meeting. I would appreciate a favorable decision.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Thelma

Thelma Buchholdt
State Representative
Anchorage District 9 (Spenard)

Enclosure.

TO: Hugh Malone, Speaker
Mike Miller, Chairman, Legislative Council

FROM: Thelma Buchholdt

A PROPOSAL - PROGRAM OUTLINE

HOUSE EDUCATION BUDGET COMMITTEE

This committee shall review current programs under the Department of Education for the purpose of improving legislative justification for their continued fiscal support. The following programs will be given additional attention:

1. ADULT EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

(ABE, Vocational Education, Community Schools, Skill Center)

A review of program plans and accomplishments, projections and funding needs.

2. PROGRAM EVALUATION

(K - 12 Education, Career and Vocational Education, Special Education, Supplemental Programs, Accreditation).

There seems to be some concern among the REAA's on how far local control could be exercised, and at the same time, how much central organization is required to meet federal funding compliance requirements. A definition of function might be in order.

3. FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS

(Foundation Program, Regional Resource Centers, Bilingual Fund, etc.)

Review programs with special emphasis on bilingual education in the elementary and secondary schools, and the teaching of English as a Second Language (ESL) in the post secondary level. Also a review of the program of the Alaska Native Language Center of The University of Alaska. Research and development of plan and program to recommend to the legislature for action.

A committee report shall be submitted to the legislature by January 31, 1978.

HOUSE EDUCATION BUDGET COMMITTEE

Budget Request

FY'78

Personal Services

Staff Assistant, part time
\$1178/mo. X 6 mos.

7,068

Secretary, part time
\$652/mo. X 6 mos.

3,932
11,000

11,000

Travel and Per Diem

Meetings/hearings
Field work: rural area

4,000
8,000
12,000

12,000

Contractual

Program/research consultants

20,000

20,000

Miscellaneous

Postage, printing, telephone,
equipment rental, etc.

3,000

3,000

TOTAL:

\$46,000

To: Mrs. Thelma Buchholdt

from: Dermot R. F. Collis, Ph.D.

Legislative Office
Juneau, Ak.

Rural Educational Affairs
University of Alaska
Fairbanks, Ak. 99701

Project: TOWARDS A PAN-ESKIMO WRITTEN LANGUAGE

§ 1. Introduction

The Eskimo language consists of four main branches named after the Eskimo word for man in each branch: Sugpiaq, Alaskan Yupik, St. Lawrence Island Yupik and Inupiaq. Each of these branches is composed of several dialects, Sugpiaq has three but Inupiaq, which spreads as far as Greenland as many as thirty. As can be seen from the appended word list, despite the enormous distances and lack of communication between areas, a general pattern emerges from the speech of all Eskimos. This exists because the language is polysynthetic and makes up compound words from a limited vocabulary of bases and postbases and suffixes. When combined, bases and postbases take on a shortened form that can vary in pronunciation from place to place, because different dialects have different combination rules and drop, insert or change different sounds in composition. Yet the uncombined, deep or underlying form is virtually the same over dialect boundaries. Let us compare the two surface compound words that follow as each is pronounced in its dialect:

South Baffin Island	uqalutaqvik
West Greenland	uqalutarfik

Both have the common underlying structure:

/uqaq/aluk/taq/vik

/speak/long/usual/place/ "place where one usually talks for a long time". This compound is used where we would say "microphone" or "pulpit" in English; the Eskimo language being precise in a different way from European languages.

Up to the present the Eskimo dialects have been described according to their surface manifestation and compound words have been listed in dictionaries with no indication of their elements. No existing Eskimo grammar dwells much on word construction, because this is the part of the language least understood by non-Eskimos who confuse meaning and reference, two things quite distinct in Eskimo. Yet it is the underlying forms and their combinations that make up the common core of all the Eskimo dialects.