

SB

190

SB 190 S. HESS 79
Bill relating to extension
of public school administration
By: Ferguson & Roddy and providing for an effective date

Introduced 2-14-79
Logged 2-14-79
Referrals none

NOTIFY
Paul (Malones) 3711



TANANA VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

January 10, 1980

The Honorable Glenn Hackney
Pouch V
Juneau 99811

Dear Senator Hackney:

During the last legislative session, Senators Ferguson and Rodey introduced Senate Bill No. 190, "an act relating to extension of public school education and providing for an effective date." The bill was introduced in February 1979, and referred to the Senate Hess Committee where no action was taken. I understand that Senator Ferguson intends to re-introduce the bill during the current session. As the chairman of the Hess Committee for the Senate, I am sure you are thoroughly familiar with the bill.

Although the bill calls for only a pilot program, it does open the door to secondary schools offering grades for two years beyond the 12th grade. My concern as a community college administrator is that in establishing a duplicate program throughout the state, it would prove extremely costly to tax-payers. There is already a vehicle in existence to offer post-secondary vocational education through the community colleges. Any lack of offerings has been due to insufficient funding to develop some of the vocational programs which we have identified. Articulation is a further difficulty which could arise if adult vocational education were offered through the secondary schools. One of the advantages that adult vocational education has through community colleges is that the colleges are accredited and courses can be transferred easily from one degree program to another. I think you are aware of the very cooperative spirit which exists between the Fairbanks North Star School District and TVCC. We have come a long way in the last five years, and I am optimistic that we will be able to offer more and better vocational technical education for our community of Fairbanks, as well as for students around the state. I would urge you to take an extremely close look at the long-term difficulties which Senate Bill No. 190 could impose upon our state system of higher education.

Thank you for taking time to read my letter. I will be happy to discuss this bill with you at any time at your convenience.

Sincerely,


Glenn F. Massay, Campus President
Tanana Valley Community College

GFM/iaj

P.S. Enclosed is a copy of the TVCC Second Semester Schedule.

File

957 Gold Belt
Juneau, Alaska 99801

January 28, 1980

Senator Gene Hackney
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch 11
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Hackney:

Senate Bill No. 190 has recently come to my attention, and I would like to point out to you the duplication of services this bill would entail.

There is a network of community colleges now extending into the bush that could easily provide vocational education this bill is seeking. The community colleges are responsive to both the needs of the community and to the job market. They have the facilities to offer college credit that can be transferred to other colleges as well as A.A. degrees in vocational areas.

I cannot understand why the state should duplicate those services that it already furnishes through the college. This duplication can only escalate the cost of education in the bush.

Sincerely,



Marie Lium