

H B

5 5 6

STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY  
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY

POUCH Y - STATE CAPITOL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
907-465-3800

May, 1988

Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the STAIRS database CMPR. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Mary Van Nimwegen

*House L?C:*

*April 21, 1988*

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date referred: 4/12/88

FURTHER REFERRALS: HESS

DATE: 4/21/88

The Labor & Commerce Committee has considered HB 556

"An Act adding class size and workload to the matters subject to negotiation between school boards and their certificated employees."

**RECOMMENDS:**

- replace with \_\_\_\_\_  the same title
- attached amendment(s)  a new title
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

**ADOPTS:**  \_\_\_\_\_ letter of intent

**ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

- fiscal impact  same as previous fiscal note published \_\_\_\_\_
- zero fiscal note  same as previous zero fiscal note published \_\_\_\_\_
- zero with analysis

**SIGNING DO PASS:**

*David Douley* \_\_\_\_\_  
*W. Ellis* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Craig [unclear]* \_\_\_\_\_  
*[unclear]* \_\_\_\_\_  
*[unclear]* \_\_\_\_\_  
*[unclear]* \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

*David Douley* \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chairman's signature

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: . . . class size and workload. . .  
subject to negotiation. . .  
Sponsor: House HESS  
Requestor: House Labor and Commerce

Agency Affected: Education  
BRU: K-12 Support  
Components: Foundation

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		0				
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		0				
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Technically this is a zero fiscal note. However, the bill holds potential for significantly increasing operating cost of school districts, a substantial portion of which is offset through the foundation program.

Prepared by: Steve Hole Phone: 465-2800  
Division: Commissioner's Office Date: 4-18-88  
Approved by Commissioner: William G. Demmert Date: 4-18-88  
Agency: Department of Education

Distribution (by preparer):  
Legislative Finance  
Legislative Sponsor  
Requestor  
Office of Management and Budget  
Impacted Agency(ies)







# NEA-ALASKA

AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

## ANCHORAGE REGIONAL OFFICE

1411 W 33RD AVENUE  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503  
(907) 274-0536

## JUNEAU OFFICE

105 MUNICIPAL WAY, SUITE 302  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801  
(907) 586-3090

## FAIRBANKS REGIONAL OFFICE

2118 CUSHMAN STREET  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701  
(907) 456-4435

April 16, 1988

To: Rep. David Donley, Chair  
Members, House Labor & Commerce Committee

Re: HB 556; "An Act adding class size and workload to the matters subject to negotiations between school boards and their certificated employees."

NEA-Alaska supports and encourages favorable consideration of this legislation by the Committee.

HB 556 puts in place a method for the resolution of the increasing class size and workload problems in our school districts but it does not impose a solution for them on the parties.

Anticipating that there may be resistance to this legislation by school boards and administrators it should be emphasized that HB 556 only establishes a mechanism to deal with the problems but leaves the solution to be developed at the local school district level.

The Kenai decision on the scope of teacher negotiations held that since there was not clear legislative intent language on the subject of negotiability, class size and workload should be considered as non-negotiable matters. Subsequent to this decision and with the recent decline in revenues available to public education, we have seen in many districts larger class sizes and substantially increased teacher workloads.

As a result, teachers as employees, have not had an effective means to deal with these critical issues.

In late February of 1988 you were provided with copies of the NEA-Alaska and PTA surveys of various districts around the state which clearly demonstrated increased class sizes and workloads.

The public clearly wants lower class sizes. Governor Cowper in his State of the State message encouraged that the

Legislature address the issue. Research consistently shows that lower class sizes enhance the learning potential and opportunity for each child. Smaller classes make more time available for individual instruction.

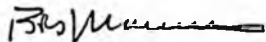
Because of the diversity of our state and the unique differences in school districts relative to their size and programs it is probably not realistically possible to legislate numbers relative to class size and workload which would adequately address this issue.

We feel that negotiability of the issue provides the potential to deal with the uniqueness of the problems and lends itself to the best potential for their resolution.

We encourage your support for this legislation.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Respectfully submitted,



Bob Manners  
Executive Secretary

c16ap11