

HCR 4

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 4/12/91

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 5-1-91

The Finance Committee considered CS HCR 4 (FINANCE) am
Establishing the Joint Committee on School Improvement.

and recommended:

- replace with _____ CS _____
 - or adopt _____ CS _____
 - attached amendment(s)
 - _____ letter of intent adopted
- same title
 new title
 technical title change (HB only)

do pass

do not pass

no recommendation

individual recommendations

further referral to _____

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):
Dept/Date:

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____

appropriation-no fiscal note

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

fiscal note(s) LAA #50.0 4/4/91
Dept/Date:

zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING DO PASS:

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Handwritten signatures]

1. [Signature]

2. [Signature] do pass

Co-Chairs: Signatures and Recommendations

FISCAL NOTE

3
 Bill Version: CS HCR 4 (FIN) AM

STATE OF ALASKA
 1991 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

(S) Publish Date: 4/12/91

Revision Date: _____
 Title: Establishing the Joint Committee
on School Improvement.
 Sponsor: Representative MacLean
 Requestor: Senata HESS

Department Affected: Legislative Affairs Agency
 BRU: Legislative Council
 Component: Council & Subcommittees

COMPONENT SERIAL NO: 783

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97
PERSONAL SERVICES	30.3					
TRAVEL	17.7					
CONTRACTUAL	2.0					
SUPPLIES	0					
EQUIPMENT	0					
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	50.0	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE	0	0	0	0	0	0
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	50.0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	50.0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	1	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year impact: _____

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

See attached page for detail.

Prepared By: Pamela A. Sloops, Director
 Division: Administrative Services

Pamela A. Sloops

Phone: 465-3850
 Date: 4/4/91

Approved By: Warren W. Endicott, Executive Director
 Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency

Warren W. Endicott

Date: 4/4/91

Distribution (by preparer): Legislative Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, & Impacted Agency(ies).

CONTINUATION OF FISCAL NOTE:

CS HCR 4 (FIN) AM

PERSONAL SERVICES

It is anticipated the Joint Committee on School Improvement will require the following staff assistance:

Administrative Assistant - Range 19 (part-time)	
\$3,637 x 6 months=	\$21,822
\$21,822 x 39% benefits	\$8,442
	<u>\$30,264</u>

30.3

TRAVEL

4 trips @ \$436 x 6 members	\$10,464
3 days per diem @ \$100/day x 4 trips	\$7,200
	<u>\$17,664</u>

17.7

CONTRACTUAL

Advertising of public notices	\$2,000
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2.0

SUPPLIES

Supplies will be absorbed within existing Legislative Operating Budget.

EQUIPMENT

Equipment will be absorbed within existing Legislative Operating Budget.

CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4 (FINANCE) am
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Amended: 3/6/91

Offered: 3/6/91

Referred: 'Todays' Calendar

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES MACLEAN, Koponen, C.Davis, Ellis, Kubina, Bruckman

A RESOLUTION

1 **Establishing the Joint Committee on School Improvement.**

2 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 **WHEREAS** the Joint Committee on School Performance was established during the Sixteenth
4 Alaska State Legislature to review school performance issues and to make recommendations to the
5 legislature; and

6 **WHEREAS** the recommendations of the committee are contained in two comprehensive reports
7 to the legislature; and

8 **WHEREAS** more than one-fourth of the state's budget goes to public schools, and the quality
9 of school performance is a proper matter for continuing legislative attention; and

10 **WHEREAS** the legislature needs to continue to give extraordinary attention to school
11 performance and improvement; and

12 **WHEREAS** legislative measures developed by the committee and enacted into law by the
13 Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature need to be monitored by the legislature to guarantee that they are
14 implemented correctly and promptly and to determine if further legislation is needed; and

15 **WHEREAS** many laws and regulations enacted over the years should be re-evaluated to
16 determine whether their cost to school districts has been reasonable or burdensome and whether they
17 have been productive in enhancing the education of the students; and

1 **WHEREAS** the work of the committee should be continued through the establishment of a Joint
2 Committee on School Improvement for the Seventeenth Alaska State Legislature;

3 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Alaska State Legislature that a Joint Committee on School
4 Improvement is established consisting of three members to be appointed by the President of the Senate,
5 three members to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and an ex-officio
6 member from the Governor's office, and be it

7 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Joint Committee on School Improvement shall review the work
8 of the Joint Committee on School Performance established by the Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature,
9 monitor the implementation of the laws developed by the Joint Committee on School Performance, and
10 identify subjects for priority legislative attention; and be it

11 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Joint Committee on School Improvement shall make a
12 thorough investigation of the finance and governance systems used in the public schools and school
13 districts in the state; and be it

14 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Joint Committee on School Improvement is authorized to take
15 action only upon majority approval of the Senate and House members of the Joint Committee on School
16 Improvement; and be it

17 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Joint Committee on School Improvement is authorized to meet
18 during each session and each interim of the Seventeenth Alaska State Legislature; and be it

19 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Joint Committee on School Improvement shall submit a report
20 of its findings and recommendations to the legislature by the 15th day of the Second Session of the
21 Seventeenth Alaska State Legislature and, on the first day of the First Regular Session of the Eighteenth
22 Alaska State Legislature, the joint committee shall submit a final report and is terminated.

Alaska State Legislature

Chair, Resources Committee
Vice-chair, Transportation Committee
Member, Rules Committee
Member, Committee on Committees



District A
Ketchikan, Wrangell, Petersburg,
Hyder, Myers Chuck, Kupreanof


Senator Lloyd Jones

P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811
907 465-3743
Fax: 907 465-3922

352 Front Street
Ketchikan, AK 99901
907 225-9082
Fax: 907 225-8546

MEMORANDUM

To: Senator Pat Pourchot, Co-Chair
Senate Finance Committee

From: Senator Lloyd Jones 

Date: April 24, 1991

Subj: Request for Hearing on HCR 4
Establishing a Joint Committee on School Improvement

APR 26 1991

I understand you have received a memo requesting a hearing on HCR 4 from the bill's sponsor, Rep. Eileen MacLean. She and I served as co-chairs to the Joint Committee on School Performance. HCR 4 is the companion bill to SCR 12, which I sponsored in the Senate. Therefore, I would like to support HCR 4 and respectfully ask you to consider scheduling the bill at the earliest possible time.

If you have any questions, or would like more information on the bill or the Joint Committee on School Performance, please do not hesitate to call.

LJ:gmc
cc: Rep. MacLean

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Representative Eileen Panigeo MacLean
Co-Chair House Finance Committee
P.O. Box 830
Barrow, Alaska 99723



WHILE IN JUNEAU
Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
465-4525
465-4833

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

District 22

MEMORANDUM

North Slope
Borough

Anaktuvuk Pass
Atkasuk
Barrow
Kaktovik
Nulqsut
Point Hope
Point Lay
Wainwright

TO: Senator Pat Pourchot, Co-Chair
Senate Finance Committee

FR: Representative Eileen P. MacLean *Eileen*
Co-Chair, House Finance Committee

Northwest Arctic
Borough

DATE: April 12, 1991

Ambler
Buckland
Deering
Kiana
Kivalina
Kobuk
Kotzebue
Noatak
Noorvik
Selawik
Shungnak

RE: Scheduling Request: HCR 4 Establishing
the Joint Committee on School Improvement

I sincerely would appreciate your promptness in scheduling HCR 4 at your earliest convenience.

This resolution is to re-establish the Joint Committee on School Improvement to continue the committee's work, primarily to address the area of school governance and finance including the foundation formula.

Since its inception, the committee has been actively working cooperatively with school districts, boards and other educational organizations in identifying problem areas and recommending measures to improve the quality of education, statewide.

It is essential this committee continue its work, there is a realm of educational issues which needs to be addressed.

Should you have questions, please contact my office. Thank you.



Office of the Chancellor

(907) 474-7112

FAX (907) 474-5213

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-0500

March 14, 1991

Representative Eileen P. MacLean
Co-Chair, House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative MacLean:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the report of the *Joint Committee on School Performance* and *HCR 4* establishing the *Joint Committee on School Improvement*. The adoption of *HCR 4* is an absolute imperative for the Alaska State Legislature. It is only through the activities of the joint committee that we have been able to focus Alaska's attention on a very serious problem in our state's schools. Unless the state legislature continues to be the protagonist for change, I am concerned that the push for improvement will languish.

A great deal of work has gone into the reports of the joint committee but much remains to be accomplished. Please adopt *HCR 4*. It is essential to the continuing process of change.

I would express one concern regarding the fiscal note attached to *HCR 4*—it may not be adequate. I note in the sponsor section that it would be the intent of the *Joint Committee on School Improvement* to acquire the expertise of a research consultant. However, I do not find any allocation for this in the fiscal note itself. Without appropriate staffing, the committee will not be able to adequately perform its function.

I note a recommendation in the committee report to change the existing tenure law. I support the change recommended by the *Committee on School Performance*; however, I feel that the granting of tenure within the public school system is too automatic. There is no peer review by other teachers, the principal, or the school superintendent. A process of peer review would help strengthen the tenure process in our public schools, and I suggest that the law embrace language to reflect that.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patrick J. O'Rourke".

Patrick J. O'Rourke, Chancellor
University of Alaska Fairbanks

PJO'R/clb



NEA-ALASKA

AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

ANCHORAGE REGIONAL OFFICE

1411 W. 33RD AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503
(907) 274-0536
FAX: (907) 274-0551

JUNEAU OFFICE

105 MUNICIPAL WAY, SUITE 302
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801
(907) 586-3090
FAX: (907) 586-2744

FAIRBANKS REGIONAL OFFICE

2118 CUSHMAN STREET
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701
(907) 456-4435
FAX: (907) 456-2159

JOINT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

NEA-Alaska supports continuation of a Joint Committee on School performance as a legislative committee functioning throughout the year to study our educational system, to identify the most effective school districts, and to recommend means to improve the quality of Alaska public schools. The Joint Committee on School Performance did serve that purpose to a limited extent during the past legislative session but was hampered by limited resources, staff, and time.

NEA-Alaska believes there are better options to provide for more direct and effective public input into the deliberations of such a committee.

We recommend that there be established a standing committee for Education in both the Senate and the House. The standing committee would seek input from the public and members of the education community such as the Association of Alaska School boards, the Department of Education, the Alaska Parent Teacher Association, and NEA-Alaska as to means to improve our public schools as well as recognize the exceptional schools that we currently enjoy. We also suggest the standing committee have appropriate staff to focus on educational issues.

An intermediate step would be to have a Joint education sub-committee composed of three members each of the House and Senate HESS Committees--appointed by the Chair(s) of the respective committees with the appropriate staff. Such a committee would, we believe, provide for greater continuity with the Health, Education, and Social Services legislative committee(s) and thus be more effective.

NEA-Alaska believes the "committee", irrespective of the composition, should focus on specific topics in order to gather the most recent and highest quality data. We believe that the more the committee focuses on a specific topic the greater the chance for significant effect--topics established by the House and Senate HESS committees in consultation with members of the educational community as listed above. The members of the educational community should be provided travel costs when necessary in order to provide input into the deliberations.

NEA-Alaska encourages the legislature to continue its focus on education within Alaska. We believe that a joint committee is a mechanism that with slight amendments can help provide that focus.

LE04/Schlper/dl



Office of the Dean
College of Rural Alaska
(907) 474-7143

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-0900

March 8, 1991

Representative Eileen P. MacLean
Co-Chair House Finance Committee
P.O. Box 830
Barrow, AK 99723

Dear Representative MacLean:

Thank you for your letter of February 19 concerning HCR 4 and the copy of your final report on school performance. I strongly support HCR 4. The work over the past two years of the Joint Committee on School Performance has been outstanding in suggesting important policy and action items for the legislature and agencies throughout our state. I am very impressed with the latest report and look forward to working with the Board and Legislature who will determine ways to insure that many of the recommendations become practice.

Thank you for the opportunities to participate in your earlier hearings. Best wishes for your continued work in improving education at all levels.

Sincerely,

Gerald V. Mohatt, Dean
College of Rural Alaska

GVH:mls

MAR 10 1991



UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE

3211 Providence Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

March 4, 1991

The Honorable Eileen P. MacLean
House of Representatives
Co-Chair of House Finance Committee
P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representative MacLean:

Having reviewed the House Concurrent Resolution number 4 Establishing the Joint Committee on School Improvement and the January 1991 report entitled "New Directions in School Performance: The Legislature as Advocate and Guarantor," I commend the Legislature for its attention to and concern about Alaska's schools. The future social and economic development of the state will depend upon well-educated citizens who will bring their skills to the work place and their leadership to our communities and state.

The University of Alaska Anchorage supports the establishment of the Joint Committee on School Improvement. UAA has a number of initiatives underway which are in harmony with the report on "New Directions in School Performance."

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

UAA is strengthening this critical statewide need area by three initiatives. First, an A.A.S. degree has been proposed and is in the review process. If approved, this degree program would become available to students in Fall, 1991. Second, UAA continues to develop and deliver training programs of inservice village teachers and aides across the state in pre-school/special education. Third, UAA has continued to develop the "Rural Specialist" program which offers inservice teachers access to graduate level study which is specifically focused on issues in village schools.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO CERTIFICATION

I am pleased to report that UAA has in place or is in the process of developing several "alternative" routes to certification. UAA acknowledges the critical need for highly skilled teachers in all Alaska schools. To that end, UAA seeks to provide several routes to certification enabling talented students to find a program that can accommodate their backgrounds.

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE
Office of the Chancellor

The Honorable Eileen P. MacLean
March 11, 1991
Page 2

- a. Students may obtain a BS degree and Type A certificate in a four-year undergraduate program (available to elementary or secondary students).
- b. Students already holding a BA or BS degree in a subject matter discipline may enroll in a three (3) semester program that results in an M.A.T. degree and Type A certification. The secondary phase of this program was initiated in 1987. At the present time approximately sixty (60) students are enrolled in this option. UAA will be proposing a similar "alternative" route for elementary teachers. If approved, this three (3) semester program will be available to students Spring semester 1992.
- c. Students who have a strong commitment to village teaching in Alaska may enroll in the Rural Alaska Teacher Education program. This is a joint effort by UAA and Prince William Sound Community College. It was initiated in Fall, 1991 with the initial enrollment of sixteen (16) students. Up to twenty-five (25) students per year can be enrolled in this alternative route to certification.

VILLAGE TEACHING

UAA has a strong commitment to prepare talented beginning teachers and provide relevant inservice educational experiences for teachers in all Alaska schools. The unique challenges and opportunities of teaching in village schools in Alaska have been infused into all routes to certification available at UAA. The use of focused seminars and numerous guest instructors with village teaching experience are two mechanisms frequently used by faculty. UAA provides inservice coursework to over 400 teachers in over 125 locations in the state in the area of special education. In addition, the Rural Alaska Teacher Education program is focused exclusively on village teaching.

EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH


UAA has a high level of commitment and a highly skilled faculty to contribute to Alaska's educational research needs. UAA's capability to meet this need can certainly be strengthened. If provided with adequate salaries and research support, faculty will make significant contributions to the research needs of Alaska. Several research projects currently underway have the potential of making contributions to Alaska's needs. UAA is testing various interventions that can be made in elementary schools to increase student performance in the Alaska First project. Increased support for the Rural Alaska Teacher Education program would enable UAA to continue to research the area of improving preparation for beginning teachers for village schools. Numerous other examples can be provided. New initiatives could be launched if adequate funding/support were available.

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE
Office of the Chancellor

The Honorable Eileen P. MacLean
March 11, 1991
Page 3

The University of Alaska Board of Regents' FY92 budget request includes a \$383,900 increment to develop an early childhood program at UAA and to expand our teacher education offerings. Any assistance you could give us on this request and the total UAA budget would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Don Behrend".

Donald F. Behrend
Chancellor

MAR 12 1991



LOWER YUKON SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 32089 • Mt. Village, Alaska 99632 • (907) 591-2411

March 6, 1991

Representative Eileen P. MacLean
Co-Chair of House Finance Committee
Box V
Juneau, Ak. 99811

Dear Representative MacLean:

Thank you for your request for our thinking on HCR 4. We believe the Joint Committee on School Improvement provides those interested in education the opportunity for meaningful dialogue with our legislators. Through such a process should come improvements in our educational programs.

We therefore support HCR 4 and look forward to the positive results that should be forthcoming.

Sincerely,

Keith Evans, Superintendent
Lower Yukon School District

**Kodiak
Area
Native
Association**



402 Center Avenue
Kodiak, Alaska 99615
Phone (907) 486-5725

Representative Eileen Panigeo MacLean
Co-Chair House Finance Committee
P.O. Box 830
Barrow, Alaska

3/27/91

Dear Representative MacLean:

Thank you for sending KANA a copy of the January 1991 *Report of the Joint Committee on School Performance*. We believe that there are many important recommendations in this report, and we will be discussing these recommendations, most particularly *HB203* and the *Alaska Studies Program Bill*, in our next meeting of the *Regional Education Board*. It is our hope that this board, which is composed of Native parent representatives from each of the six villages and the town of Kodiak, will issue resolutions of support for these two bills.

Enclosed are copies of letters which we have submitted to our local legislators, Representative Cliff Davidson and Senator Fred Zharoff, on the importance of *HB203* and the *Alaska Studies Program Bill*. We anticipate that there will be a groundswell of support for these bills, and you and the Committee are to be commended for that have put forth on improving Alaska's educational programs.

Sincerely,

KODIAK AREA NATIVE ASSOCIATION
KELLY SIMEONOFF JR., PRESIDENT

Andrew Ponchene
Andrew Ponchene

Education Administrator