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# Alaska State Legislature

Senator Paul Fischer  
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## State Senate

While in Juneau  
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### MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Arliss Sturgulewski, Chairman  
Senate Health, Education and  
Social Services Committee

FROM: Senator Paul Fischer *PAF/sgn*

SUBJECT: SS Senate Bill 20  
(making appropriations for K-12 support for FY 92)  
Senate Bill 31  
(forward funding for K-12 support for FY 93)

DATE: February 4, 1991

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I appreciate your scheduling the above referenced bills for a hearing before the Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee on February 6.

Essentially by introduction of these bills, I have taken the decision of education funding out of the operating budget process, which is never determined until the latter part of the session.

It would be my desire that Senate Bill 20 be enacted by the Legislature at the earliest possible date, in order to give the school districts adequate notice of their FY 92 funding levels prior to their local budgeting deadlines. Senate Bill 31 would provide forward funding for education for the next fiscal year utilizing the surplus revenues anticipated during the coming fiscal year. This approach would considerably reduce the operating budget for FY 93 as well as provide the districts notice of their education funding level a full year in advance.

Both of these bills fund the school foundation program and pupil transportation at 100 percent of entitlement. The figures contained in Senate Bill 31 are estimates for FY 93, submitted by the Department of Education.

PAF/sgn

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 31 ( )

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

Offered:

Referred:

Funding Information:	General Fund	\$595,415,900
	Other Funds	<u>45,624,000</u>
		\$641,039,900

*Based on 60,000  
unit value*

Sponsor(s): SENATOR FISCHER

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act making an appropriation to the Department of Education for K - 12 support  
2 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993; and providing for an effective date."

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

4 \* Section 1. The sum of \$641,039,900 is appropriated from the general fund and from other funds  
5 in the amount listed to the Department of Education for the purposes expressed and allocated in the  
6 amounts listed for operating expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993:

7	FUND SOURCE	AMOUNT
8	General fund	\$595,415,900
9	Public school fund (AS 37.14.110)	7,500,000
10	School fund (AS 43.50.140)	2,500,000
11	Federal receipts	35,624,000
12	PURPOSE	ALLOCATION AMOUNT
13	Foundation program	\$574,250,900
14	Student lunch program	15,000,000

WORK DRAFT

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1	Cigarette tax distribution	2,500,000
2	Tuition students	14,711,200
3	Boarding home grants	230,000
4	Youth in detention	800,000
5	Schools for the handicapped	3,262,200
6	Pupil transportation	30,285,600

7 \* Sec. 2. The appropriation made by this Act lapses into the funds from which appropriated June 30,  
8 1993.

9 \* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect July 1, 1991.



# NEA-ALASKA

AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

## ANCHORAGE REGIONAL OFFICE

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## FAIRBANKS REGIONAL OFFICE

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February 5, 1991

To: Senator Sturgulewski, Chair  
Members, Senate HESS Committee

Re: **SB 31**; *"An Act making an appropriation to the Department of Education for K-12 support for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993; and providing for an effective date."*

NEA-Alaska supports and encourages your favorable consideration of SB 31.

Forward funding of public education will provide better continuity in critical programs and services and much needed stability in the year to year planning process.

Also, forward funding of public education is a public policy statement that public education really is a priority in Alaska and gives more meaning to the Constitutional commitment and obligation.

We strongly encourage that the Committee give serious consideration to an amendment to this bill which would increase the Instructional Unit value to more realistically reflect the projected impact of the increasing cost of living. Also, it is appropriate to consider an amendment which would provide for a prospective "inflation proofing" mechanism.

Alaska now has the economic capability to put in place real forward funding of public education. Such an opportunity may not again be available to us. To let it pass without acting on it would be a major disservice to our future.

We urge your support for SB 31 and these suggested changes.

Thank you for your consideration of our position.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Manners  
Executive Director

Don Oberg  
President

cc: Senator Fischer