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**FILE**

# SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 3/9/95

FURTHER:

REPORTED OUT OF  
C 3-30-95

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 3-30-95

The Finance Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 88

"An Act establishing a pilot program for charter schools; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with CS SB 88 ( FIN )
- adopt previous CS (          )
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by          Committee
- further referral to the          Committee

- Senate Bill:
- same title
  - new title
- House Bill:
- same title
  - technical change
  - new: SCR#

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	NR	DNP	AM
<i>Steve Neri</i>	✓	<i>Paul F. Schmitt</i>	X		
<i>Bill E. Kelly</i>	✓	<i>Daniel Donley</i>	✓		
<del><i>Daniel Donley</i></del>					
<i>Best Prop</i>	✓				
Co-Chair: <i>[Signature]</i>	✓				
Co-Chair: <i>Kirk Halford</i>	✓				

**NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal

**PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):\***

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal
DOE	7/18/95		2.0

APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

\*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

# FISCAL NOTE

No. 1  
 Bill Version: SB 88  
 (S) Publish Date: 3.9.95

STATE OF ALASKA  
 1995 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: An Act establishing a pilot program for charter schools  
 Sponsor: Senator Sharp  
 Requester: Senator Sharp

Department Affected: Education  
 BRU: Education Program Support  
 Component: Basic Education and Instructional Improvement  
 COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 171

**Expenditures/Revenues:**

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE:						
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**FUNDING:**

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF March	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current year (FY95) impact: \$ 0.0

**ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)**

Senate Bill 88 establishes a pilot program for charter schools. The State Board of Education will need to develop, notice, and promulgate regulations to implement SB 88.

Prepared by: Sheila Peterson, Special Assistant  
 Division: Commissioner's Office  
 Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]  
 Agency: Education

Phone: 465-2803  
 Date: February 18, 1995  
Jerry Covey  
 Date: February 18, 1995

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FAX

TO: Legal Services  
Phone: 465-3867  
Fax: 465-2029

FROM: Kathy  
Senate Finance Committee  
2618

DATE: March 30, 1995

RE: CSSB 88 (Fin)

Please incorporate attached Amendments 1 and 2 into CSSB 88 (HES) to produce a Senate Finance Committee Substitute for the bill and return the original to Kathy or Norma, Room 520, Capitol Building. The bill was reported out of committee several minutes ago and will be read across the floor of the Senate into Rules at 11:00 a.m. this morning. Please give me a call if you have question or I can be of assistance. Thank You.

Adopted  
3/30/95

A M E N D M E N T

CSSB-88(Fin)

Offered by: Senator Bert Sharp

Page 2, line 12

Delete [control] add supervise.

Page 4, line 15

After the word teacher add or employee.

Page 4, line 16

After the word teacher add or employee.

After the words assigned to delete [teach in].

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After the word teacher add or employee.

SENATE FINANCE  
COMMITTEE  
Amendment Number: 1  
Bill Number: SB 88  
Sponsor: SHARP Date: 3/27  
Logged In By: [Signature]

3/30/95

*Adopted*

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE SENATE  
TO: CSSB 88(HES)

BY SENATOR SHARP

- 1 Page 2, line 11, after "shall":
- 2 Insert "be selected by the academic policy committee and shall"

SENATE FINANCE  
COMMITTEE

Amendment Number: #2  
 Bill Number: SB 88  
 Sponsor: SHARP Date: 3/30  
 Logged In By: [Signature]

*Fin*  
CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 88(HES)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/9/95  
Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): SENATORS SHARP, Frank, Miller, Taylor, Rieger

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act establishing a pilot program for charter schools; and providing for an  
2 effective date."

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

4 \* Section 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF CHARTER SCHOOLS. (a) A charter school may  
5 be established as provided under this Act upon the approval of the local school board and the  
6 state Board of Education of an application for a charter school. The state Board of Education  
7 may not approve more than 30 charter schools to operate in the state at any one time and shall  
8 approve charter schools in a geographically balanced manner as follows: not more than 10  
9 schools in Anchorage; not more than five schools in Fairbanks; not more than three schools  
10 in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough; not more than three schools in the Kenai Peninsula  
11 Borough; not more than two schools in the City and Borough of Juneau; not more than seven  
12 schools located in other areas of the state, and these seven schools shall be allocated as nearly  
13 as possible in a geographically balanced manner throughout the rest of the state.

14 (b) A local school board shall prescribe an application procedure for the establishment

1 of a charter school in that school district. The application procedure must include provisions  
2 for an academic policy committee consisting of parents of students attending the school,  
3 teachers, and school employees and a proposed form for a contract between a charter school  
4 and the local school board, setting out the contract elements required under sec. 2(c) of this  
5 Act.

6 (c) A local school board shall forward to the state Board of Education applications for  
7 a charter school that have been approved or denied by the local board.

8 \* Sec. 2. ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF A CHARTER SCHOOL. (a) A  
9 charter school operates as a school in the local school district except that the charter school  
10 (1) is exempt from the local school district's textbook, program, curriculum, and scheduling  
11 requirements; (2) is exempt from AS 14.14.130(c); the principal of the charter school shall  
12 select, appoint, or otherwise <sup>Supervise</sup> ~~control~~ employees of the charter school; and (3) operates under  
13 the charter school's annual program budget as set out in the contract between the local school  
14 board and the charter school under (c) of this section. A local school board may exempt a  
15 charter school from other local school district requirements if the exemption is set out in the  
16 contract.

17 (b) A charter school shall

18 (1) keep financial records of the charter school;

19 (2) oversee the operation of the charter school to ensure that the terms of the  
20 contract required by (c) of this section are being met; and

21 (3) meet regularly with parents and with teachers of the charter school to  
22 review, evaluate, and improve operations of the charter school;

23 (4) meet with the academic policy committee at least once each year to  
24 monitor progress in achieving the committee's policies and goals.

25 (c) A charter school shall operate under a contract between the charter school and the  
26 local school board. A contract must contain the following provisions:

27 (1) description of the educational program;

28 (2) specific levels of achievement for the education program;

29 (3) admission policies and procedures;

30 (4) administrative policies;

31 (5) statement of the charter school's funding allocation from the local school

1 board and costs assignable to the charter school program budget;

2 (6) method by which the charter school will account for receipts and  
3 expenditures;

4 (7) location and description of the facility;

5 (8) name of the teacher, or teachers, who, by agreement between the charter  
6 school and the teacher, will teach in the charter school;

7 (9) teacher-to-student ratio;

8 (10) number of students served;

9 (11) the term of the contract, not to exceed a term of five years;

10 (12) a termination clause providing that the contract may be terminated by the  
11 local school board for the failure of the charter school to meet educational achievement goals  
12 or fiscal management standards, or for other good cause;

13 (13) a statement that the charter school will comply with all state and federal  
14 requirements for receipt and use of public money;

15 (14) other requirements or exemptions agreed upon by the charter school and  
16 the local school board.

17 (d) A charter school may be operated in an existing school district facility or in a  
18 facility within the school district that is not currently being used as a public school, if the  
19 chief school administrator determines the facility meets requirements for health and safety  
20 applicable to other public schools in the district.

21 \* Sec. 3. FUNDING FOR CHARTER SCHOOL. (a) A local school board shall provide  
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23 the amount generated by the students enrolled in the charter school less administrative costs  
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25 by the Department of Education. The "amount generated by students enrolled in the charter  
26 school" is to be determined in the same manner as it would be for a student enrolled in  
27 another public school in that school district.

28 (b) The program budget of a charter school is to be used for operating expenses of  
29 the educational program of the charter school, including purchasing textbooks, classroom  
30 materials, and instructional aids.

31 (c) The charter school shall provide the financial and accounting information requested

1 by the local school board or the Department of Education, and shall cooperate with the local  
2 school district or the department in complying with the requirements of AS 14.17.190.

3 \* Sec. 4. ADMISSION. (a) The program of a charter school may be designed to serve

4 (1) students within an age group or grade level; or

5 (2) students who will benefit from a particular teaching method or curriculum.

6 (b) A charter school shall enroll all eligible students who submit a timely application,  
7 unless the number of those applications exceeds the capacity of the program, class, grade  
8 level, or building. In the event of an excess of those applications, the charter school and the  
9 local school board shall attempt to accommodate all of those applicants by considering  
10 providing additional classroom space and assigning additional teachers from the district to the  
11 charter school. If it is not possible to accommodate all eligible students who submit a timely  
12 application, students shall be accepted by random drawing. A school board may not require  
13 a student to attend a charter school.

14 (c) In addition to other requirements of law, a charter school shall be nonsectarian.

15 \* Sec. 5. <sup>OR Employee</sup>TEACHER <sup>OR Employee</sup>TRANSFERS, EVALUATIONS, AND NEGOTIATED  
16 AGREEMENTS. (a) A teacher, <sup>OR Employee</sup> may not be assigned to ~~teach in~~ a charter school unless the  
17 teacher <sup>OR Employee</sup> consents to the assignment.

18 (b) All provisions of an existing negotiated agreement or collective bargaining  
19 agreement applicable to a teacher or employee of a district apply to that teacher or employee  
20 if employed at a charter school in that district, unless the district and the bargaining unit  
21 representing the teacher or employee agree to an exemption.

22 (c) A teacher in a charter school shall be evaluated in an equivalent manner as all  
23 other teachers in the district, except that if there is no administrator assigned to the charter  
24 school, the local school board, with the agreement of the charter school, shall designate a  
25 school district administrator in that district to evaluate a teacher in a charter school.

26 \* Sec. 6. CONTRACTS; DURATION. A contract for a charter school may be for a term  
27 of no more than five years and may not extend beyond July 1, 2005.

28 \* Sec. 7. REGULATIONS. The state Board of Education may adopt regulations under  
29 AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) necessary to implement this Act.

30 \* Sec. 8. DEFINITIONS. In this Act,

31 (1) "academic policy committee" means the group designated to supervise the

1 academic operation of a charter school and to ensure the fulfillment of the mission of a charter  
2 school;

3 (2) "charter school" means a school established under this Act that operates  
4 within a public school district;

5 (3) "local school board" means a borough or city school board or a regional  
6 school board;

7 (4) "parent" means a biological, adoptive, or foster parent, or an adult who acts  
8 as guardian of a child and makes decisions related to the child's safety, education, and  
9 welfare;

10 (5) "parent advisory group" means a group that is recognized by the school as  
11 representative of those parents having children attending that school, that has regular meetings,  
12 and in which membership is open to all parents within that school's attendance area;

13 (6) "teacher" means a person who serves a school district in a teaching,  
14 counseling, or administrative capacity and is required to be certificated in order to hold the  
15 position.

16 \* Sec. 9. This Act is repealed July 1, 2005.

17 \* Sec. 10. TRANSITION. Notwithstanding sec. 12 of this Act, the state Board of  
18 Education may proceed to adopt regulations necessary to implement this Act. The regulations  
19 take effect under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the respective  
20 effective date of the relevant section or sections of this Act.

21 \* Sec. 11. Section 10 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

22 \* Sec. 12. Sections 1 - 8 of this Act take effect July 1, 1995.

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

Mary Pagenkopf

House Health, Education & Social Services  
May 2, 1995  
2:04 p.m.

A M E N D M E N T

CSSB-88(Fin)

Offered by: Senator Bert Sharp

Page 2, line 12

Delete [control] add supervise.

Page 4, line 15

After the word teacher add or employee.

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After the words assigned to delete [teach in].

Page 4, line 17

After the word teacher add or employee.

SENATE FINANCE  
COMMITTEE

Amendment Number: 1

Bill Number: SB 88

Sponsor: Sharp Date: 3/27

Logged In By: [Signature]

# FISCAL NOTE

No. 1  
 Bill Version: SB 88  
 (S) Publish Date: 3.9.95

STATE OF ALASKA  
 1995 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: An Act establishing a pilot program for charter schools  
 Sponsor: Senator Sharp  
 Requester: Senator Sharp

Department Affected: Education  
 BRU: Education Program Support  
 Component: Basic Education and Instructional Improvement  
 COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 171

**Expenditures/Revenues:**

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE:						
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**FUNDING:**

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current year (FY95) impact: \$ 0.0

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

Senate Bill 88 establishes a pilot program for charter schools. The State Board of Education will need to develop, notice, and promulgate regulations to implement SB 88.

Prepared by: Sheila Peterson, Special Assistant

Phone: 465-2803

Division: Commissioner's Office

Date: February 18, 1995

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]

Jerry Covey

Agency: Education

Date: February 18, 1995

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(S) TIES, FIN

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
1995 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 88

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Sponsor: Senator Sharp  
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<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

<b>CAPITAL</b>						
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SPB 88

*Amended ...  
Reported Out  
3/30/95*

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 88(HES)**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY THE SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 3/9/95**

**Referred: Finance**

**Sponsor(s): SENATORS SHARP, Frank, Miller, Taylor, Rieger**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

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2 effective date."

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8 as guardian of a child and makes decisions related to the child's safety, education, and  
9 welfare;

10 (5) "parent advisory group" means a group that is recognized by the school as  
11 representative of those parents having children attending that school, that has regular meetings,  
12 and in which membership is open to all parents within that school's attendance area;

13 (6) "teacher" means a person who serves a school district in a teaching,  
14 counseling, or administrative capacity and is required to be certificated in order to hold the  
15 position.

16 \* Sec. 9. This Act is repealed July 1, 2005.

17 \* Sec. 10. TRANSITION. Notwithstanding sec. 12 of this Act, the state Board of  
18 Education may proceed to adopt regulations necessary to implement this Act. The regulations  
19 take effect under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the respective  
20 effective date of the relevant section or sections of this Act.

21 \* Sec. 11. Section 10 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

22 \* Sec. 12. Sections 1 - 8 of this Act take effect July 1, 1995.

# Alaska State Legislature

SENATOR  
BERT SHARP

DISTRICT P

CHAIRMAN  
SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

MEMBER  
FINANCE COMMITTEE  
RULES COMMITTEE

## FAIRBANKS

DENALI BANK BUILDING  
119 N. CUSHMAN, SUITE 201  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701  
(907) 452-7885/7886

## SESSION ADDRESS

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 514  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182  
(907) 465-3004/4921

Senate

TO: Senator Rick Halford, Co-Chair  
Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Senator Bert Sharp *Bert Sharp*

RE: **PRIORITY** Request for Hearing

DATE: March 20, 1995

I am requesting that CSSB-88; "An Act establishing a pilot program for charter schools; and providing for an effective date, be heard before the Senate Finance Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.



REPRESENTING  
GOLDEN HEART  
OF ALASKA

# Alaska State Legislature

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BERT SHARP  
DISTRICT P

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## SESSION ADDRESS

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JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182  
(907) 465-3004/4921

Senate

TO: Senator Rick Halford, Co-Chair  
Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Senator Bert Sharp 

RE: Request for Hearing

DATE: March 7, 1995

I am requesting that CSSB-88; "An Act establishing a pilot program for charter schools; and providing for an effective date:, be before the Senate Finance Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.



REPRESENTING  
GOLDEN HEART  
OF ALASKA

# Alaska State Legislature

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BERT SHARP

DISTRICT P

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STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 514  
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Senate

## SPONSOR STATEMENT

CSSB-88(HES)

BY: SENATOR BERT SHARP

THE ISSUE OF CHARTER SCHOOLS WAS DISCUSSED AT LENGTH DURING THE TWO YEARS OF THE 18TH LEGISLATURE. UNFORTUNATELY, CHARTER SCHOOLS WAS JUST ONE PART OF SB-61, WHICH IN ALL ASPECTS, WAS AN "OMNIBUS EDUCATION BILL" THE BILL TRIED TO ADDRESS DIVERSE ISSUES, EACH OF WHICH, WERE CONTROVERSIAL AND IN SOME WAY, TAINTED THE OTHER BY ASSOCIATION.

I'VE TRIED TO CRAFT SB-88 TO BE A SINGLE ISSUE BILL ON CHARTER SCHOOLS. MY GOAL IS TO SET AS FEW LIMITATIONS AS POSSIBLE IN SETTING UP AND OPERATING CHARTER SCHOOLS. THIS BILL WILL ALLOW SCHOOL DISTRICTS, TEACHERS AND PARENTS THE SPACE TO BE CREATIVE. IT ALLOWS THE CHARTER SCHOOLS TO UTILIZE EXISTING SCHOOL FACILITIES, NEW FACILITIES AND/OR THE OPTION OF LEASING PRIVATELY OWNED STRUCTURES FROM THE OWNER. A GEOGRAPHICAL ALLOCATION HAS BEEN DONE TO ASSURE FAIRNESS STATEWIDE.



REPRESENTING  
GOLDEN HEART  
OF ALASKA

ALL CHARTER SCHOOL PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION, AND UPON THEIR APPROVAL, FORWARDED TO THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE TO STATE LAW.

ALL STAFFING OF CHARTER SCHOOLS MUST BE DONE ON A VOLUNTEER BASIS, WITH THE PRINCIPAL OR ADMINISTRATOR HAVING THE RIGHT OF FINAL APPROVAL OF ALL STAFF SELECTION.

BY CHALLENGING STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE AT THEIR HIGHEST CAPABILITIES, I FIRMLY BELIEVE CHARTER SCHOOLS MAY LEAD THE WAY TO A MORE EFFECTIVE EDUCATION SYSTEM FOR THE NEXT CENTURY.

I URGE YOUR SUPPORT ON THIS IMPORTANT LEGISLATION.



Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

# FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

520 Fifth Avenue

Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4756

(907) 452-2000

Board of Education March 9, 1995

Sue Wilken  
President  
Seat A  
474-0341

Senator Bert Sharp  
Alaska State Legislature  
MS 3100  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Bill Burrows  
Vice President  
Seat E  
451-0985

Dear Senator Sharp:

Jane Haigh  
Treasurer  
Seat D  
457-7334

Thank you for responding to the Fairbanks School Board's request to support legislation regarding the establishment of a pilot program for charter schools in Alaska.

Bob Boko  
Clerk  
Seat G  
474-9081

Your effort in sponsoring SB88 is appreciated. Passage of this bill will serve Fairbanks and the state well in its attempt to explore different means of organizing and managing schools. We are committed to doing our part at the local level. Together, we can continue to work toward the improvement of education of Fairbanks' youth. We feel strongly that an option for non-mandated charter schools to contract with local school boards promotes that effort.

Jerry McBeath  
Member  
Seat C  
479-2870

As you know, the Fairbanks community has always held education as a high priority. We recognize that improvements should always be our goal and we appreciate your assistance in considering of different forms of educational delivery.

Andy Warwick  
Member  
Seat F  
474-9148

Cynthia Henry  
Member  
Seat B  
474-0034

Sincerely,

Bill Burrows  
Vice President  
Board of Education

Bill Heinen, Lt. Col.  
Eielson Air Force Base  
Representative  
377-3259

cc: Interior Delegation  
Rick Cross, Superintendent  
Linda Anderson, Legislative Liaison

John Popp, Major  
Fort Wainwright Army Post  
Representative  
356-3771

Jay McAlpin  
Student Representative  
458-9061

HC 31 Box 5248-A  
Wasilla, AK 99654-9704  
March 25, 1995

Senator Bert Sharp  
State Capitol Bldg.  
Juneau, AK 99601-1182

Dear Senator Sharp,

Greetings. I have received word from Sen. Taylor's office that the Senate is considering their own version of the Charter Schools bill. It has come to my attention that you will be considering SB 88 in your finance committee meeting on Monday. I would urge you to reflect on these ideas:

A. Charter schools support teachers, students and parents with different learning styles from the "mainstream" traditional factory model. I would point out that educational research has established more appropriate educational models and the existing institution is 10 to 20 years behind in implementing them

B. In times when money in education seems to poured into a black hole with no effective return, it is time to try something new to get the results parents, teachers and industry/business want in the future work force.

C. Other states that have implemented these schools have not been overwhelmed by costs. Contrary to what traditional education advocates claim, these schools would have to function within existing budget constraints within their districts. In other words, students participating in charter schools would get the same dollar amount as an other student within the district. Monies would not be drained away from traditional programs.


D. Without going to a major overhaul of the institution of education, charter schools can effectively speed up trends happening in most districts: sight-based management, inclusion of special needs students in the regular classroom, parent and industry partnerships in individual schools.

In short, it is possible to revitalize and renovate public education from within the institution making it more appropriate for diverse learning styles, management trends and regain public enthusiasm and support for the same monies available currently in these tight economic times. The public will support change as long as it is not too radical and this approach of charter schools is the best viable vehicle. The return for

this vision and investment will be young people prepared for the future job markets and a more timely updating of our educational system in America.

Please become an advocate for our children's future. Do all you can to pass a charter schools bill this session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris Casler". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Chris Casler

**SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**First Committee of Referral**

DATE: 2/15/95

FURTHER: Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: 2.16.95  
 (in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 3.8.95

HESS Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 88

"An Act establishing a pilot program for charter schools; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with \_\_\_\_\_ CS SB 88
- adopt previous \_\_\_\_\_ CS \_\_\_\_\_
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by \_\_\_\_\_ Committee
- further referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

Senate Bill:  same title  
 new title  
 House Bill:  technical change  
 new: SCR# \_\_\_\_\_

HESS

FN

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	NR	DNP	AM
Mike Miller	✓				
		Judith E. Salo	✓		
		Ally Ellis	✓		
		How A. Leman	✓		
CHAIR: Lyda Green	✓				

**NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department                      Date    Zero    Fiscal

DOE	2/8		✓

**PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):\***

Department                      Date    Zero    Fiscal


APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

\*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill