

HB

294

Alaska State Legislature

Committees

Labor & Commerce
Legislative Council
World Trade
Trade & Tourism
Special Committee
on Fisheries



Representative Eugene Kubina
House Minority Leader

During Session:
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

During Interim:
P.O. Box 2463
Valdez, Alaska 99686

SPONSOR STATEMENT – HB 294

HB 294, "An Act relating to the formula funding public education; makes two simple changes to the existing foundation formula. 1) It increases the instructional unit value from \$61,000 to \$64,000, and 2) it increases the level of a district's basic need from 35% to 40%.

The instructional unit has not been adjusted since 1993 and only once since the inception of the program in 1988. When you consider inflation, the \$61,000 dollar figure is estimated today to be worth \$48,000. Which means that the actual funding spent on educating our children has dropped by 22%. HB 294 would address that problem by adding an additional \$37.6 million dollars to the formula.

This bill would also increase the level of local contribution from 35% to 40%. With this change, the only school districts that would be effected are North Slope, Valdez, and Unalaska. Even with the increase in the instructional unit, these school districts would not get any additional state dollars. However, all other school districts throughout the state would get additional money. For instance, the Anchorage School District would receive nearly \$12 million, the Fairbanks School District would receive \$4 million, and the Kenai and the Mat-Su would receive \$3 million each.

Estimates of state aid are based on the FY98 projections received from school districts.

	State Aid \$61,000 Unit Value	State Aid \$64,000 Unit Value	Change in Req Local Effort 35% to 40%	Estimated Net Change In State Aid
ALASKA GATEWAY	\$5,250,257	\$5,524,187		\$273,930
ALEUTIAN REGION	706,639	743,779		37,140
ALEUTIANS EAST	3,736,207	3,949,837		213,630
ANCHORAGE	184,402,510	196,315,930		11,913,420
ANNETTE ISLANDS	1,600,553	1,726,223		125,670
BERING STRAIT	17,162,573	18,161,573		999,000
BRISTOL BAY	1,884,665	2,021,015		136,350
CHATHAM	2,683,802	2,845,232		161,430
CHUGACH	1,872,397	1,969,597		97,200
COPPER RIVER	5,995,153	6,291,373		296,220
CORDOVA	2,716,894	2,883,934		167,040
CRAIG	2,371,072	2,503,792		132,720
DELTA/GREELY	4,681,434	4,951,764		270,330
DENALI	2,931,468	3,099,108		167,640
DILLINGHAM	3,741,308	3,961,748		220,440
FAIRBANKS	66,604,010	70,809,950		4,205,940
GALENA	1,720,646	1,811,666		91,020
HAINES	2,186,523	2,325,243		138,720
HOONAH	2,036,521	2,145,951		107,430
HYDABURG	977,362	1,026,682		49,320
IDITAROD	5,277,640	5,562,280		284,640
JUNEAU	20,725,831	22,157,371		1,431,540
KAKE	1,324,890	1,396,350		71,460
KASHUNAMIUT	2,121,185	2,237,375		116,190
KENAI	44,764,794	47,698,974		2,934,180
KETCHIKAN	9,438,663	10,117,553		678,870
KLAWOCK	1,530,359	1,614,899		84,540
KODIAK	13,281,056	14,141,126		860,070
KUSPUK	5,577,174	5,875,254		298,080
LAKE AND PENINSULA	6,778,065	7,134,675		356,610
LOWER KUSKOKWIM	39,595,060	41,742,520		2,147,460
LOWER YUKON	14,977,190	15,861,260		884,070
MAT-SU	58,008,515	61,321,985		3,313,470
NENANA	1,487,031	1,563,531		76,500
NOME	4,956,453	5,231,253		274,800
NORTH SLOPE	11,951,605	12,845,665	(886,757)	7,303
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	18,099,143	19,075,403		976,260
PELICAN	563,594	594,374		30,780
PETERSBURG	3,264,527	3,469,757		205,230
PRIBILOF	2,039,134	2,156,044		116,910
SITKA	6,291,941	6,720,131		428,190
SKAGWAY	734,653	790,303		55,650
SOUTHEAST	3,165,691	3,341,701		176,010
SOUTHWEST	7,439,476	7,852,786		413,310
ST. MARY'S	1,433,744	1,507,544		73,800
TANANA	1,185,734	1,246,664		60,930
UNALASKA	1,808,944	1,943,584	(141,032)	(6,392)
VALDEZ	3,412,771	3,671,641	(259,128)	(258)
WRANGELL	2,469,957	2,607,287		147,330
YAKUTAT	1,320,398	1,392,308		71,910
YUKON FLATS	6,379,085	6,719,855		340,770
YUKON/KOYUKUK	6,725,649	7,100,559		374,910
YUPIIT	4,279,034	4,528,274		249,240
ALYESKA CORRES	4,022,889	4,220,736		197,847
MT EDGECUMBE	1,708,000	1,792,000		84,000
TOTALS	\$633,393,689	\$672,301,606	(\$1,286,917)	\$37,620,800



SOUTHEAST
ISLAND
SCHOOL
DISTRICT

1621 TONGASS AVENUE SUITE 301
POST OFFICE BOX 8340
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901
PHONE: (907) 225-9658
FAX: (907) 225-2836

Ray Griffin
SUPERINTENDENT

RESOLUTION 98-3

Whereas Southeast Island School District believes that the current funding formula is appropriately and adequately designed to provide for the inordinately varied factors impacting all of Alaska's school districts, and
Whereas the Alaska State Legislature has not increased the education foundation unit value since 1993, and
Whereas the SISD Board of Education considers simple redistribution of school funding to be divisive and harmful to the educational process statewide, and
Whereas the purchasing power of the education foundation unit has decreased approximately 25% since 1988, and
Whereas Southeast Island School District, along with other Alaska school districts, has made extensive cuts in personnel, programs, and services to students in order to protect the integrity of the classroom, and
Whereas Southeast Island School District, along with other Alaska school districts, has held salary and benefits increases to a minimum, making it increasingly difficult to attract and employ experienced teachers and administrators, and
Whereas the fiscal burden imposed by an ever-increasing number of state and national mandates has deepened dramatically during the years since 1993,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Southeast Island School District supports HB 294 and its intent to assist school districts to meet the challenges of both national and state student performance standards, teacher standards, and increasing demands made upon Alaska school districts by business and technology.

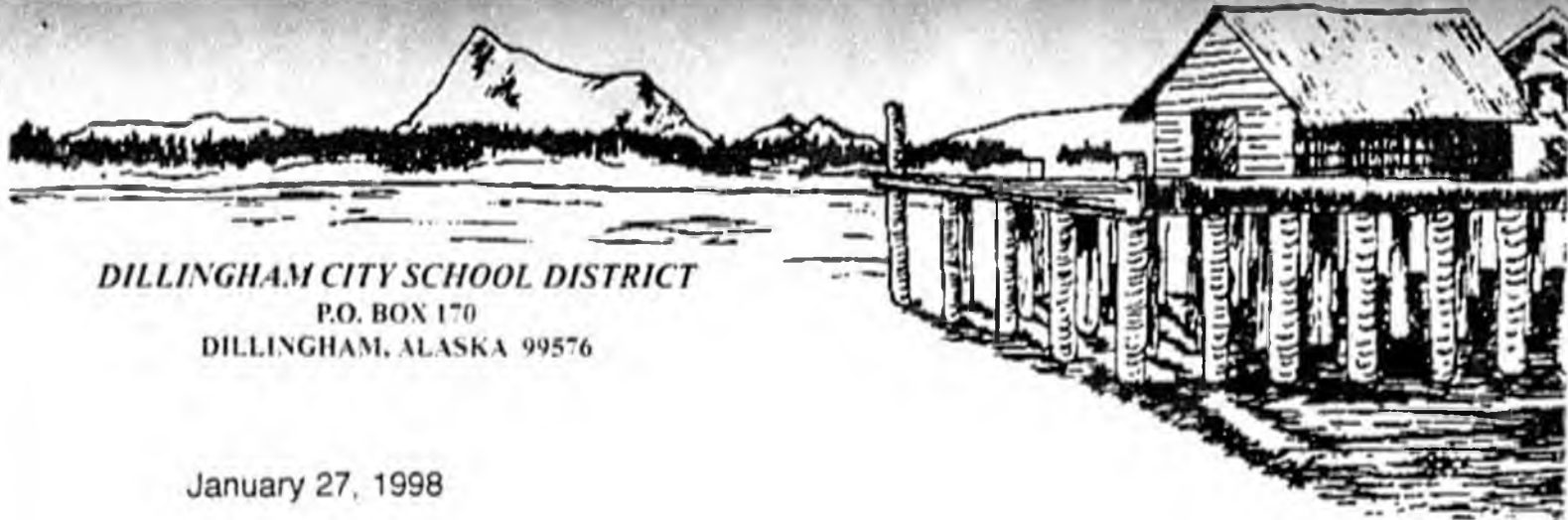
Pat Rowland
Pat Rowland, Chair
Lois Morgan
Lois Morgan, Clerk

2-12-98
Date
2-12-98
Date

Marietta Bergman, Member
Dan Hayes Jr
Dan Hayes, Member
Paul E. Kain
Paul Kain, Member

Date
2-12-98
Date
2-12-98
Date

SUPPORT



DILLINGHAM CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 170
DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576

January 27, 1998

Representative Eugene Lubina
House Minority Leader
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Lubina,

Just a short note of thanks for your support of public education through HB 294. Increasing the instructional unit level is my top choice when assessing school funding bills. An increase in local contributions creates political problems in small communities. Creating a mechanism that provides districts an opportunity to increase special education funding (based on need) from the state is also near the top of our wish list.

Dillingham City Schools appreciates your efforts! Keep up the hard work!

Sincerely,

Ken Halverson
Superintendent

KH kjm

1-22-98

Rep. Gene Kubina, 465-3799

Thanks for HB 294. Wish you a lot of success with this bill. It is common sense, clearcut, non-convoluted and may be too simple for some to understand.



Donnell Haygroves

Author: nancyb3ccsd.k12.ak.us (Nancy Billingsley) at CC2MHS1

Date: 1/24/98 2:43 PM

Priority: Normal

TO: Representative Gene Kubina at LAA_CAP

Subject: HB 294

Dear Representative Kubina:

I recently received a copy of HB 294 and wish to express support for this education funding proposal. The Craig City School District would want to be sure that the single-site supplemental continues to be funded as it has been during the last few years, however. This appropriation is not included in the current funding formula. Is it possible to include the well established single site appropriation as an amendment to HB 294?

Thank you for your efforts to increase funding for Alaska's schools. It is long overdue.

Sincerely,

Nancy A. Billingsley
Superintendent
Craig City School District

VALDEZ CITY SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

P.O. BOX 358

VALDEZ, AK 99686

TEL# (907) 835-4357

FAX# (907) 835-4964

FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

DATE 2/17/98 TIME 10:29AM
TO (NAME): Line & Subma
FAX# 465-3799

SUBJECT Part State Funding -
COMMENTS Line, thought you
might be interested in this
information. See you Mar or Apr.
FROM NAME Barry
DEPARTMENT OFFICE _____
OFFICE TELEPHONE NO 907-835-4357
OPERATOR _____
NUMBER OF PAGES FOLLOWING THIS COVER LETTER: _____

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES FOLLOWING THIS COVER LETTER PLEASE TELEPHONE OUR OFFICE. OTHERWISE WE WILL ASSUME YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS TRANSACTION SATISFACTORILY

VALDEZ CITY SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
P.O. Box 398
1112 West Klutna Street
Valdez AK 99886
TEL# (907) 835-4357, FAX# (907) 836-4964

February 16, 1998

Dear Superintendents:

Last October at the AASA State Conference Superintendents listened to Senator Gary Wilken tell us that over the last nine years the State's educational appropriation had increased by 51%. At the time, I vividly remember looking around the room at numerous puzzled faces in response to the Senator's statement. Those of us who have been here the past nine years know we have not had a 50% increase in funds available to spend on education. I believe the Senator is sincere in his belief that the 50% increase is accurate. As you know, the Senator has continued to use these numbers throughout his new funding formula campaign. I had hoped that the Department of Education or someone would come along to explain the numbers. Since this has not happened, I asked our Business Manager, John Tongen to do a little research for some background information.

As with anything as complicated as the total appropriation for State funding for education, it really is not as simple as saying so much money was appropriated in 1988, and so much money was appropriated in 1997, therefore the difference is the increase in money available to educate students. This is, of course, the inference made by the Senator's statement. However, let us look at these figures in the simple context as presented in the Senator's May 2, 1997 memorandum (Copy Enclosed). As you can see, according to the memorandum, the 1988 appropriation of \$409 million increased to a \$617 million appropriation in 1997. John's research shows a State appropriation of \$431-plus million in 1988 increased to \$617-plus million in 1997 (A copy of John's research on the "Erosion of State Education Dollars" is enclosed). We are not sure where the Senator's \$409 million number came from but we are certain that the actual appropriation for 1988 was in excess of \$431 million. If we break that increase down, (\$431 million to \$617 million) based on per-pupil-allocation (\$4,268 to \$4,960), it amounts to a 16.2% per-pupil increase - sounds a little different than a 50% increase.

I still question the 16.2% increase in available funds for education. If the unit value only increased less than 2%, how could the appropriation increase over 16%? This is where the answer gets more complicated. If you follow John's information on the "Erosion of State Education Dollars" sheet, you will find that the major factor is the decrease in "required local deduct." For Superintendents in REAA's, that means the local valuation of a City or Borough has declined and the 4 mill required-contribution is therefore reduced. When you also consider the lower "impact aid deduct," the increase in "categorical units," and the addition of "funding communities," it is fairly safe to say there has been very little increase in dollars available to regular classroom education.

February 16, 1998

The Senator is correct in saying there has been more money appropriated by the State for education in the last nine years but very little of that increase has found its way into the regular classroom as an increase in money to educate students.

If you have questions, please contact John at 635-4924. If you cannot reach him and really are hard up for more information, (at your own peril) you can try me.

Have a Great Day!

Sincerely,


HARRY ROGERS
Superintendent

Enclosure

Erosion of State Education Dollars

	ADM	Basic Need -	Req. local deduct -	Impact Aid deduct -	Other PL874 Prior yr adj or Suppl Equaliz -	Foundation	Rev. Per Student
FY88	101,142	607,359,600 - (\$6,005 per student)	135,035,290 -	40,571,459 -	811,323 -	431,664,174	4,268
FY87	124,545	772,790,000 - (\$6,206 per student, 3.3% increase)	123,437,938 -	32,926,032 -	1,237,645 -	617,763,007	4,960

16.2% increase from
FY88 to FY87

The 3.3% increase is due to the unit value increasing from \$60,000 to \$61,000 (1.67% \$100) an increase in categorical units and creation of additional funding communities (1.63% \$98)

The required local deduct and impact aid deduct did not increase commensurably with the Basic Need increase (ADM increase) which of course has a dramatic effect on the total foundation. The lack of increases in these two areas is caused by a significant reduction in municipal assessed valuation and decline in deductible impact aid

With the Anchorage CPI increasing 32.9% during this time frame and the Foundation revenues per student increasing only 16.2% there has been an obvious erosion of State education dollars.

The above figures exclude state correspondence and MI Edgerumbe

GARY WILKEN

SENATOR
DISTRICT 10
WEST FAIRBANKS

SENATE MEMBER

EDUCATION, HEALTH EDUCATION
AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT
VETERANS AFFAIRS
YOUTH SERVICES
REGIONS OFFICE

SENATE MEMBER

SENATE MEMBER



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
STATE OF ALASKA
1000 ALASKA CENTER
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801
PHONE: 465-2111
FAX: 465-2112

MEMORANDUM

TO: Associate Legislators
FROM: Gary Wilken
Senator, West Fairbanks
DATE: May 2, 1997
RE: K-12 Education Funding

Recently there have been numerous suggestions, both written and verbal, that the legislature, over the past ten years, has allowed the value of the K-12 state Foundation dollar to erode by some 30%. I would respectfully suggest that such is not the case and that over the last ten years, the actual decline in the state public school support dollar is 8.48%.

To arrive at and validate this conclusion, the following data is considered.

	1988	1997	% of Change
1) Total state Foundation contribution (DoE)	\$409 million	\$617 million	+50.9%
2) Total students educated (DoE)	101,142	124,544	+23.1%
3) Anchorage CPI-U (DoL)	108.1	143.7	+32.9%

Using this data, state spending in 1988 was \$4,043.82 per student (\$409 million/101,142). In 1997, when considering the increase in state funding coupled with the increase in the number of students educated, the current

Associate Legislators

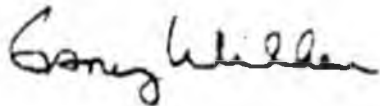
May 2, 1997

Page 2

1997 dollars spent are \$4,954.07 per student (\$617 million/124,544). However, considering the effect of inflation (an increase in the index from 108.1 to 143.7 = +32.9%) the amount spent per student in 1997 should be \$5,374.24 ($\$4,043.82 \times 1.329$) or \$420.17 per student more than what is actually being spent ($\$5,374.24 - \$4,954.07 = \$420.17$). Thus in 1997, if the increase in Foundation funding is to remain even with the ten year decline in the purchasing power of the Foundation dollar, there is an 8.48% negative gap ($\$420.17/\$4,954.07$) between what is being spent per student (\$4,954.07) and what should be spent (\$5,374.24).

I take the liberty of bringing this number to your attention and would appreciate your consideration and comments. While I'm not particularly proud of the negative growth of the state education dollar, at the same time, random comments and sweeping assertions that K-12 education has been deserted by the legislature should be challenged and not be generally accepted as the truth. K-12 education support is the top priority of this legislature and it appears to have been held in like esteem by past legislatures as well.

While the current legislature and current administration attempt to remodel, revise, or rewrite the foundation formula, answers to other questions raised during this process will be forthcoming. Please feel free to contact my office if we can assist in clarifying this complex subject.



Side note: I question the Anchorage-based CPI-U 32.9% increase over the last ten years as a true reflection of the cost-of-living increase statewide. I believe it is significantly less but have only my personal and business experience in the Interior upon which to base my opinion.

If one asks the question: At what inflation rate would the Foundation dollar be equal today with what it was in 1968? The answer is 2.25%.



D E N A L I W E S T L O D G E

Representative Con Bunde
Chairman
House Health, Education and Social Services
State Capitol
Juneau, AK. 99801

February 5, 1998

Dear Representative Bunde

I am writing in support of HB 294 (Kubina) and to urge a hearing of this measure before your committee.

HB 294 increases funding for Alaska's schools from \$61,000 to \$64,000 per year per instructional unit. This equates to a modest 5% increase and is one that we in rural Alaska feel is urgently needed.

In your review of education reform and funding formulas, I hope that you will consider the following rural education issues:

1) We can not raise taxes to subsidize our own schools. As you know, there is no tax base in most of the bush even if there were boroughs. While there is no official means to raise school funds here, parents and community members work hard making crafts, donating items and organizing raffles to sponsor school activities. The five school families here raised \$13,000 in cash in three years for school activities. Many other dollars worth of services were donated to the school during that time as well.

2) The bush community helps support the urban economies in many ways that may not be obvious to urban residents, ie. groceries, fuel, transportation related industries based in Anchorage and Fairbanks, etc. Inadequate bush educational funds will not only impact our education, but the businesses that schools, their employees and students' families support. In other words, money spent on education in bush Alaska is money that stays within Alaska. Ultimately ending up being spent in Anchorage or Fairbanks.

3) Our school at Lake Minchumina has 13 students, all of whom plan to go to college. They are now living at home with their families, with chores and healthy recreational opportunities. The school is working very hard with it's limited



Page two

resources to provide a quality education, and with community financial support the school and its students are excelling.

We have 3 teachers working in our school even though the IASD has been able to fund only 1.5 teacher positions. They put in longer hours than they are paid for because they are dedicated to the education of our children. Our teachers are excited by the positive influence they have, the enthusiasm of their students and involvement of the parents.

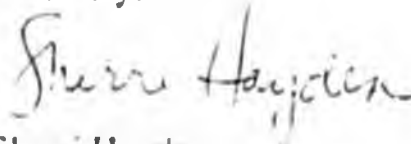
Local families and businesses are flying our children to sports/cultural events at their own expense. Local buildings have been made available for use as temporary gym facilities.

We are happy to contribute to our children's education but our small community is giving all it has. Our school is already operating on a bare bones budget. Without adequate funding support, our students will be required to go elsewhere for their education. Increased funding for rural schools will lead to better citizens and a stronger state.

We would like to invite you and members of your Committee to visit Lake Minchumina to discuss these important issues with us. We would like to show you how the funds you allocate are being put to use.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Sherri Hayden

cc: Representative Gene Kubina
Representative Irene Nicolia

2/3/98

To Rep Kubma

It is refreshing to see a
Legislator take responsibility for
the sorry situation of education funding.
Your article (Compass, Daily News, Jan 29)
hits the nail on the head and
provides a reasonable solution.

In copying my representatives
and the Governor.

Sgd Wright

cc Robin Taylor
Ben Grissendorf
Tony Knowles

Public Opinion Message

Tek Legislative Information Office (LIO)

JAF, Rm 1 • PO Box 845 Tok, AK 99700 • Phone: 883-5020 Fax: 883-5021

This form **MUST** be completely filled out. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO.

From: Please PRINT the information below.

NAME: DR	FIRST NAME: Timothy	LAST NAME: MacDonald	STATE: AK
MAILING ADDRESS: PO, Box 19	CITY: Klawock, AK		ZIP: 99925
RESIDENCE (SCHOOL ADDRESS / OFFICE / HOME / MAILING ADDRESS): PO, Box 300	CITY: Klawock		ZIP: 99925
DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER: (907)755-2228	SCHOOL: Klawock School	DATE: 1-22-88	NAME: Timothy P MacDonald

To: Put a in the appropriate box(es).

House members	House members	Senate members
<input type="checkbox"/> Austerman (aus)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly P (kb)	<input type="checkbox"/> Adams (ada)
<input type="checkbox"/> Barnes (bar)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kempen (kem)	<input type="checkbox"/> Conley (con)
<input type="checkbox"/> Berkowitz (ber)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kohring (kor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Duncan (dun)
<input type="checkbox"/> Brice (br)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Korkesh (kor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Etna (et)
<input type="checkbox"/> Bunde (bun)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kot (kot)	<input type="checkbox"/> Green (gre)
<input type="checkbox"/> Cowdery (cow)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kubina (kub)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hatford (hat)
<input type="checkbox"/> Croft (cro)	<input type="checkbox"/> March (mar)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hoffman (hof)
<input type="checkbox"/> Davies (dav)	<input type="checkbox"/> Masek (mas)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, T (kel)
<input type="checkbox"/> Davis (davi)	<input type="checkbox"/> Moses (mos)	<input type="checkbox"/> Leman (lem)
<input type="checkbox"/> Dyer (dy)	<input type="checkbox"/> Muder (mud)	<input type="checkbox"/> Longin (lin)
<input type="checkbox"/> Eton (et)	<input type="checkbox"/> Nicholas (nic)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Macne (mac)
<input type="checkbox"/> Foster (fos)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ogan (oga)	<input type="checkbox"/> Miller (mil)
<input type="checkbox"/> Green (gm)	<input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, G. (phg)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pamel (pal)
<input type="checkbox"/> Grossardt (gro)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pinter (por)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pearce (pear)
<input type="checkbox"/> Harley (har)	<input type="checkbox"/> Roseberg (ror)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pierce, R. (pr)
<input type="checkbox"/> McHugh (mhu)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ryan (ry)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp (shar)
<input type="checkbox"/> Mahan (mah)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sander (sar)	<input type="checkbox"/> Taylor (tay)
<input type="checkbox"/> James (jam)	<input type="checkbox"/> Trenchard (tr)	<input type="checkbox"/> Tompason (tom)
<input type="checkbox"/> Sibley (sib)	<input type="checkbox"/> Vezar (vez)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward (war)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Williams (wil)	<input type="checkbox"/> Weber (web)

Subject: Fill out the boxes below OR enter a Subject.

HB 294 and check one: Support Amend Oppose Amend CR enter a general Subject (LIO staff may modify)

Message: Your PRINTED message cannot exceed 50 words or contain any vulgar language.

MR.	Mackie	and	MR	Korkesh,
HB 294	is	a	positive	Approach
and	acceptable	with	additions.	Single
Site	permanent	fix	and	a
1%	Inflation	estimate	as	included
in	Governor's	bill.	Also,	a
WISH,	Take	Impact	and	out
of	formula	to	so	directly
to	Schools	Impacted	NO	reductions.

... 1998

P.O. Box 737

Wrangell, Ak. 99929

Feb. 1, 1998

Dear Representative Davies:

Please address the issue of educational funding this session. Make a significant COL adjustment to the \$61,000 per educational unit paid to local school districts. It's been 10 years with only a 1.66% increase.

Our situation in funding Wrangell Schools is grim - and many other school districts are also making painful cuts.

Please help!

Sincerely,

Heather Perry
Concerned Parent



Dr Dick H Curtis Sr 366-7207
POB 89

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tanana	AK	99777	25	school supt	U

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/22/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

READ SPONSOR STATEMENT OF THIS BILL MAYBE TOO SIMPLE FOR THE LIGISLATURE TO HANDLE. BUT WILL SHOULD RECEIVE WIDEST ACCEPTANCE ACROSS STATE AND WOULD GREATLY BENEFIT OVER NEXT 3 TO 5 YEARS EDUCATION IN THE STATE OF

ALASKA AND INCREASE QUALITY OF EDUCATION . SUPPORT BILL.

Ms Deborah L Crozier 883-5345
PO Box 501

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	25	self	U

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/22/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

THANK YOU FOR INTRODUCING HB 294. THE SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA NEEDS THIS ADDITIONAL MONEY TO KEEP UP WITH INFLATION.

Mr Patrick M Crozier 883-2520
PO BOX 337

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	26	self	Y

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01 22 1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

THANK YOU FOR INTRODUCING HB 294 IT WILL HELP OUR SCHOOL DISTRICT MEET BASIC NEEDS AGAIN

Mrs Elizabeth L Zabieleski 883-5506
PO Box 453

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	26		Y

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01 22 1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

THANK YOU FOR INTRODUCING HB 294 THIS WILL BE OF GREAT BENEFIT TO ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Ms. Lillian
PO Box 887

J Roach

883-4676

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	26		Y
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/22/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

THANK YOU FOR INTRODUCING HB 294. THE DISTRICT NEEDS THE ADDITIONAL FUNDING.

Mr Gordon
General Del

Kron

883-4391

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	60		U
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/22/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

THIS IS THE BEST BILL THAT HAS COME ALONG TO REPRESENT THE NEEDS OF RURAL ALASKAN EDUCATION.

Mrs Helen
P O Box 106

L Olson

883-5654

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	27	self	U
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/22/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND SINCERE APPRECIATION TO THE LEGISLATORS WHO SUPPORT THIS BILL TO AID OUR GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN OVER TEN YEARS THERE WILL BE AN INCREASE IN REVENUE TO

COMPENSATE IN THE RISE IN COST OF LIVING EXPENSES. I HAVE CHILDREN IN SCHOOL AND WORK AS A SUBSTITUTE AT TOK SCHOOL. EDUCATION AND THE QUALITY THEREOF IS OUR FINEST RENEWABLE RESOURCE. THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.

Mrs Pam
PO Box 502

Gingue

883-5259

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	27	PTS.	Y
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/22/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR SPONSORING HB 294. I APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF OUR CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS.

Mrs Cynthia
PO Box 223

A Bergstrom

883-5159

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	27	parent	Y
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/22/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING HB 294. I APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF OUR CHILDREN.

Ms Helen
PO Box 6039

B Dalke

291-2327

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	28	mentasia	U
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

PLEASE SUPPORT HB 294 I CONGRATULATE YOU ON USING COMMON SENSE FOR A COMMON GOAL-EDUCATION.

Mr Harry
PO Box 844

D White

883-5161

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	28	tok school	U
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

THANK YOU FOR REALIZING THE MONEY PROBLEM IN EDUCATION. WHILE WE REALIZE MONEY DOES NOT SOLVE ALL OF OUR CHALLENGES IT DOES FACIITATE TOOLS AND PERSONEL TO PROVIDE THE ESSENTIALS

Mr Mark
PO Box 854

K Mitchell

883-5161

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	28		U
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK BRICE CROFT DAVIS ELTON FOR A PRACTICAL FUNDING BILL WHICH WILL HELP MY STUDENTS GET A QUALITY EDUCATION AND OFFER MY SUPPORT FOR YOUR COMITMENT TO EDUCATION.

Mr Don
PO Box 272

Wimberly

883-5161

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	28		Y
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

I FEEL THE UNIT VALUE SHOULD BE ADJUSTED TO REFLECT INFLATION AS PER HB 294

Mrs Cheryl
PO Box 513

S Hosken

883-5161

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	28		Y
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

THANK YOU FOR YOUR RECOGNITION FOR THE NEED FOR MORE MONIES FOR EDUCATION. COSTS HAVE ESCALATED BUT MONEY HAS NOT AS AN EDUCATOR PARENT AND GRANDPARENT I APPRECIATE YOUR MUCH NEEDED SUPPORT.

Mrs Candy
PO Box 41

Thurneau

883-5161

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	28		Y
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

I SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 294 PRIMARILY BECAUSE IT ADDRESSES THE LOSS OF ACTUAL FUNDING DUE TO INFLATION. THIS WILL HELP MY CHILDREN GET THE EDUCATION THEY DESERVE.

Ms Paula
PO Box 1319

J Yokum

883-5161

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Tok	AK	99780	28		U
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

THE HOUSE BILL 294 WILL INCREASE QUALITY EDUCATION. I AM IN SUPPORT OF THIS BILL AS A SECRETARY, PARENT, AND GRANDPARENT.

Ms Kaye O Robinson 883-5151
 PO Box 961

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Tok AK 99780	28		U	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

I SUPPORT THIS BILL FOR OUR SCHOOLS.

Mrs Jill M Rusyniak 883-4219
 PO Box 122

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Tok AK 99780	28		Y	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

THANKS FOR INTRODUCING THIS BILL WHICH IS IMPORTANT IN THE EDUCATION OF OUR CHILDREN IN RURAL ALASKA.

Ms LeAnn L Schultz 882-2663
 PO Box 487

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Tok AK 99780	28		U	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23 1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

I WOULD LIKE TO PERSONALLY THANKS YOU FOR INTRODUCING HOUSE BILL 294. WE. AT DOT LAKE SCHOOL. AS PART OF THE ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS.

Mrs Theresa Paulsen 883-5161
 PO Box 222

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Tok AK 99780	28		Y	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23 1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS BILL

Mrs Joyce
PO Box 148

A Worner

547-2296

Eagle

AK 99738

Distribution
38

Affiliation

Reg Voter

Y

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

THANK YOU! AT LAST RURAL SCHOOLS ARE BEING RECOGNIZED! LOW RURAL BUDGET EQUALS ONE TEACHER INSTRUCTING ALL SUBJECTS FOR FOUR GRADE LEVELS AND OUTDATED TEXT BOOKS. THIS IS AN IMPOSSIBLE TASK! RURAL KIDS ARE PAYING THE

PRICE! THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! FROM A PARENT AND CITY CLERK.

Mrs Pamala
PO Box 854

Mitchell

883-3301

Tok

AK 99780

Distribution
40

Affiliation

Reg Voter

U

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

A CLEAR, WELL WRITTEN BILL THAT I AM VERY MUCH IN FAVOR OF PASSING. A GOOD BILL FOR OUR FUTURE-THE CHILDREN.

Mrs Jill
PO Box 508

Krannenberg

883-5151

Tok

AK 99780

Distribution
24

Affiliation

Reg Voter

U

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

THANK YOU FOR INTRODUCING HOUSE BILL 294

Mrs Jeanne
PO Box 556

L Spittler

778-2287

Northway

AK 99764

Distribution
24

Affiliation

Reg Voter

Y

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

I WISH TO EXPRESS MY STRONG SUPPORT FOR HB 294 AND THANK THE LEGISLATORS WHO INTRODUCED IT. I FEEL THAT THE EDUCATION OF OUR CHILDREN SHOULD ALWAYS BE A HIGH PRIORITY. THIS BILL DOES JUST THAT.

Brendon A McMahon 778-2287
 PO Box 561
 Distribution Affiliation Reg Voter
 Northway AK 99764 24 U
 Date POM Sent Constituency Bill Number Response Subject
 01/23/1998 N HB 294 Supports

THANKS FOR ADOPTING SUCH A COMMON SENSE APPROACH TO THE FUNDING OF OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS. 'HATS OFF' TO THE SPONSORS OF THIS BILL. GREAT JOB!

Mrs Rebecca J Gallen 778-2287
 PO Box 515
 Distribution Affiliation Reg Voter
 Northway AK 99764 24 Y
 Date POM Sent Constituency Bill Number Response Subject
 01/23/1998 N HB 294 Supports

THANK YOU FOR COMING UP WITH HB 294 THAT WILL HELP SUPPORT THE EDUCATION OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGES AND KEEPING EDUCATION FUNDING FAIR IN THE STATE OF ALASKA.

Mrs Lois Smith 778-2287
 PO Box 438
 Distribution Affiliation Reg Voter
 Northway AK 99764 24 Y
 Date POM Sent Constituency Bill Number Response Subject
 01/23/1998 N HB 294 Supports

I SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 294 AND HOPE FOR IT'S PASSAGE AND GOOD LUCK.

Kerry R Maher 778-2331
 PO Box 474
 Distribution Affiliation Reg Voter
 Northway AK 99764 24 U
 Date POM Sent Constituency Bill Number Response Subject
 01/23/1998 N HB 294 Supports

I SUPPORT THE HB 294 BILL

Rita
PO Box 411

Carroll

778-2287

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Northway	AK	99764	24		Y
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

CONGRATULATIONS FOR INTRODUCING BILL 294 WHICH I FULLY SUPPORT. HOPEFULLY THIS BILL WILL PASS AND INCREASE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUCH AS OURS, ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT.

Mrr Jeffrey
PO Box 446

P Manns

778-2287

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Northway	AK	99764	24		U
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

I SUPPORT HB 294. GOOD JOB.

Mr James
PO Box 515

W Gallen

000-0000

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Northway	AK	99764	24		Y
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

I SUPPORT HOUSE BILL HB 294. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

Mr Floyd
PO Box 465

J Clevidence

000-0000

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Northway	AK	99764	24		Y
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

THANK YOU FOR INTRODUCING THIS BILL I HAVE SPENT SEVERAL HUNDERED DOLLARS ALREADY THIS YEAR OF MY OWN MONEY TO SUPPLY THE NEEDS OF MY CLASSES. I DO NOT EVEN HAVE TEXTBOOKS FOR TWO OF MY CLASSES.

Ms Tracie A Callos
PO Box 684

778-2287

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Tok	24		Y	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

I AM VERY APPRECIATIVE OF YOUR WORK ON THIS BILL. OUR DISTRICT IS ALWAYS UNDER A THREAT OF LOSING PROGRAMS OR FUNDING FOR THE KIDS WHO NEED THE RESOURCES MOST. THIS BILL CAN ONLY BENEFIT THE CHILDREN IN ALASKA'S SCHOOLS.

Mr Matthew D Cronk
PO Box 684

778-2287

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Northway	25		Y	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

THANK YOU FOR INTRODUCING HB294. AFTER YEARS OF INADEQUATE FUNDING IT IS EXCITING TO SEE A BILL THAT WILL INCREASE FUNDING FOR OUR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION. WAY TO GO!

Mr Richard Smith
PO Box 438

778-2287

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Northway	25		Y	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT THERE IS A BILL IN THE HOUSE THAT WOULD INCREASE OUR MUCH NEEDED FUND FOR THE SCHOOLS. I SUPPORT THIS BILL SO THAT WE CAN GIVE OUR KIDS THE QUALITY EDUCATION THEY NEED.

Mr Michael L Cronk
PO Box 418

778-2319

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Northway	25		Y	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

THANK YOU FOR THIS BILL. IT WILL GREATLY HELP OUR SCHOOLS AND ALLOW US TO DO THE BEST POSSIBLE JOB EDUCATING OUR STUDENTS.

Mrs Lorraine
PO Box 406

L Titus

778-2287

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Northway	AK	99764	25		Y
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

YOUR HOUSE BILL 294 WILL BENEFIT OUR SCHOOL AND WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR IMPUT.

Peggy
HC 63 Box 1280

A Stanley

778-2251

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Northway	AK	99764	25		U
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

THANK YOU FOR INTRODUCING THIS BILL TO OUR LEGISLATURE.

Mitchell
HC 63 Box 1280

D Stanley

778-2251

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Northway	AK	99764	25		U
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

THANKS FOR INTRODUCING HB 294

Mr Don
PO Box 556

E Spitzer

778-2235

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Northway	AK	99764	25		U
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01 23 1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

THE PASSAGE OF YOUR BILL IS CRITICAL TO MANY SCHOOLS THAT WILL SUFFER IMMENSELY UNLESS THIS OR A SIMILAR BILL IS ENACTED THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS. DON'T GIVE UP

Mr Lee A Titus 778-2311
PO Box 406

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Northway	AK	99764	25	NW tribal	Y
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

PLEASE SUPPORT THIS BILL. THANK YOU.

Ms Joyce K Johnson 778-2311
PO Box 933

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Northway	AK	99764	25	NW tribal	U
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

THANKS YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. GREATLY APPRECIATED.

Violet Vandenberg 778-2311
PO Box 461

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Northway	AK	99764	25	NW tribal	Y
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

THANKS YOU FOR HB 294 AND I FULLY SUPPORT THEBILL.

Cora S Demit 778-2311
PO Box 484

			Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter
Northway	AK	99764	25	NW tribal	Y
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject	
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports		

I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION FOR INTODUCING HB 294 IN SUPPORT OF ALL SCHOOLS ESPECIALLY IN OUR DISTRICT ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mrs Jennifer D Manns 778-2287
 PO Box 446

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Northway AK 99764	25		Y	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

GOOD JOB I FULLY SUPPORT BILL 294

Robert R Beach 778-2337
 PO Box 430

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Northway AK 99764	25		Y	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

I THINK HB 294 WOULD BE GREAT TO ALL THE SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT. THANKS

Jason O Torres 778-2360
 PO Box 462

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Northway AK 99764	25		U	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

HB 294 WAS A GOOD IDEA FROM WHAT I HEARD ABOUT IT

Shelly J Albert 778-2294
 PO Box 532

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Northway AK 99764	25		Y	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

THANK YOU FOR INTRODUCING HB 294 IN SUPPORT OF EDUCATION. GREAT JOB.

Sherri L Demit 778-2298
 PO Box 524
 Distribution Affiliation Reg Voter
 Northway AK 99764 25 U
 Date POM Sent Constituency Bill Number Response Subject
 01/23/1998 N HB 294 Supports
 I STRONGLY SUPPORT THE HB 294 BILL.

Ms Lynda Raymond 778-2317
 PO Box 48
 Distribution Affiliation Reg Voter
 Northway AK 99764 25 Y
 Date POM Sent Constituency Bill Number Response Subject
 01/23/1998 N HB 294 Supports
 I SUPPORT THIS BILL. IT IS IMPORTANT FOR KIDS!!

Mrs Judith A Harmon 883-3255
 PO Box 778
 Distribution Affiliation Reg Voter
 Tok AK 99780 25 Y
 Date POM Sent Constituency Bill Number Response Subject
 01/23/1998 N HB 294 Supports
 I APPRECIATE YOUR SPONSORING HOUSE BILL 294 AS IT ADDRESSES THE ISSUE OF INFLATION AND ACTUALLY INCREASES PURCHASING POWER FOR MOST OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEMS IN ALASKA. AS AN EDUCATOR AND PARENT OF 3 CHILDREN I AM PLEASED TO SEE AN INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT.

Ms. Joanne M Burnett 883-2591
 PO Box 307
 Distribution Affiliation Reg Voter
 Tok AK 99780 25 Y
 Date POM Sent Constituency Bill Number Response Subject
 01/23/1998 N HB 294 Supports
 I SUPPORT HB 294 TO CHANGE THE FOUNDATION FORMULA AND INCREASE FUNDING PER INSTRUCTIONAL UNIT BUT DON'T THINK IT GOES FAR ENOUGH TO CLOSE 22% DECREASE IN REAL PURCHASING POWER EXPERIENCED SINCE THE FORMULA WAS LAST ADJUSTED IN 1988. PUBLIC EXPENDITURES FOR EDUCATION SHOULD BE ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION YEARLY

Mr Russell
PO Box 745

J Persson

883-5574

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Tok	25		Y	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

MANY OF OUR RURAL DISTRICTS HAVE MADE REFORMS AND ARE CUTTING COSTS. NOW IT'S TIME TO KEEP UP WITH INFLATION BEFORE OUR STUDENTS SUFFER MORE.

Mrs Diane
PO Box 544

A Cronk

883-5161

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Northway	25	self	Y	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/26/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING EDUCATION BY SPONSORING HOUSE BILL 294.

Mrs Donna
PO Box 60

K Westphal

547-2391

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Eagle	18		Y	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/28/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING LEGISLATION TO FUND OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE. IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN MIND ALL CITIZENS. BOTH RURAL AND URBAN. PLEASE DO YOUR PART TO ENSURE ALASKA'S FUTURE FOR ALL ITS CHILDREN. WE APPRECIATE YOUR TIME ENERGY AND EFFORTS. THANK YOU.

Mrs Patricia
PO Box 68

J Mitchell

547-2276

	Distribution	Affiliation	Reg Voter	
Eagle	18		Y	
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/28/1998	N	HB 294	Supports	

I WANT TO LET YOU KNOW OUR MY HEARTFELT APPRECIATION CONCERNING THIS BILL. OUR SCHOOL DISTRICT AND RURAL SCHOOL. EAGLE COMMUNITY. NEED FINANCIAL AID DESPERATELY IN ORDER TO CONTINUE. ONCE AGAIN AS A ASB MEMBER AND A PARENT, THANK YOU.

Mr. John
Pouch Z

C Thomas

225-2118

Ketchikan

AK 99901

Distribution

12

Affiliation

Reg Voter

U

Date POM Sent

Constituency

Bill Number

Response

Subject

01/28/1998

N

HB 294

Opposes

INCREASING THE INSTRUCTIONAL UNIT NOT A SOLUTION. YOUR STATE FUNDING HAS DROPPED BY 22%. YOUR PROPOSED 5% INCREASE IS A SHORT-TERM FIX. NO INFLATION PROOFING IS PROVIDED. WHY NOT REWARD SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND BOROUGHES?

CONSIDER A BONUS FOR DISTRICTS FUNDED TO THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE LEVEL.

Opinion/Editorial By Representative Gene Kubina

Educational Funding: Smaller Dollars, Bigger Bills

Several weeks ago I was glancing through a file on education when I came across a letter from a woman representing one of our state's school boards. Her plea was simple and to the point. She wanted to know why a state wealthy enough to have a Permanent Fund, and billions of dollars in additional savings accounts, constantly "fudges" on adequately funding our children's education.

What she was referring to was this: during the last ten years, the amount of revenue the state of Alaska has spent on each public student has dropped by more than 22% when inflation and enrollment increases are taken into account.

Also significant, this writer is representative of the many Alaskans who volunteer to fill our school boards, our PTAs, and other educational organizations, and are aware of the financial crunch our schools are feeling. These people have families, own businesses, pay taxes, deal with the issues common to all of us, yet their direct involvement in our educational system makes them aware that our school districts are under funded.

In fact, I can flatly state that during my years in office I have never encountered a school board or PTA that did not support an increase in our educational funding formula. This educational "deficit" has been the topic of agenda at meetings and hearings across the state, and Alaskans generally agree that there is a problem.

Unfortunately, the approach undertaken by several colleagues of mine in the House and Senate has been more along the line of EdOpEd doc "borrowing from Peter to pay Paul." There is one bill in the Senate that would take funds from some school districts and give it to others, whereas another would apply a payroll tax to Alaskans in some regions while exempting those living elsewhere.

Aside from the constitutional issues, I believe that both approaches are unworkable and divisive, pitting school districts against school districts, and in effect, children against children.

In looking at this issue, I think there is one question that seems to be overlooked. Inflation is factored into other areas of the economy. Why not education? The Permanent Fund, Social Security, salaries, military pay, are adjusted for inflation. And in a number of cases on a yearly basis.

Yet the funds that provide the bulk of educational funding in our state have only been adjusted once for inflation since the inception of the program in 1988.

The result has been noticeable: larger classes and fewer programs; less teacher aides and deep cuts in maintenance and janitorial staff. In some communities like Anchorage, families have been asked to voluntarily pick up the cost of some "extras," and communities are being requested to pick up a larger share of the financial burden on a local level—even as they reach caps that will not allow them to contribute more. The Kenai Peninsula district is a good example.

Recently, one of the members of my local school board reminded me that the city of Valdez, considered to be a wealthy town by many Alaskans, has been at its local funding cap for years. In fact, in order to balance the school budget, the district is being forced to cut reading teachers out of the elementary school. His observation was that if a relatively wealthy town like Valdez is being forced to cut personnel, how are the less affluent communities doing? Although conditions vary from one region to another, my perception is that some of our schools are in serious trouble if this erosion of their budgets continues.

That is why I have introduced an education bill that does two things. First of all, it will raise the instructional unit from \$61,000 to \$64,000, gaining some of the ground that education has lost to inflation over the last ten years.

This increase will mean better funding for most of our schools: nearly \$12 million dollars for the Anchorage school district, \$4 million for Fairbanks, and \$3 million for the Kenai and the Mat-Su districts.

Secondly, my bill will address the issue of disparity between some of our districts by raising the local minimum contribution of 35% to 40% of the educational basic need. In brief, what this means is that the North Slope, Valdez, and Unalaska school districts will not receive any additional state dollars, while approximately \$37.6 million dollars will be distributed to other schools across the state.

With the passage of this bill, we will be putting state dollars toward the greatest educational need without playing to political or regional differences. It is my intent to work closely with members of both the minority and the majority to see that this legislation successfully passes into law.

We owe it to the children of this state to address this problem.

A M E N D M E N T

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE
TO: HB 294

BY REPRESENTATIVE KUBINA

1 Page 1, following line 12:

2 Insert new bill sections to read:

3 ** Sec. 2. AS 14.17.031(a) is amended to read:

4 (a) The department shall adopt regulations defining funding communities
5 within each district that reflect geographic and attendance area factors. For the
6 purpose of determining instructional units, students are counted in the district and the
7 funding community from which they receive educational services. The total number
8 of instructional units in a school district is the sum of the following units for each
9 funding community within the district, as determined by the department:

10 (1) the number of units for elementary and secondary students
11 determined under AS 14.17.041(a), [OR] (b), or (e), whichever is greater:

12 (2) the number of units for vocational education determined under
13 AS 14.17.043;

14 (3) the number of units for special education determined under
15 AS 14.17.045; and

16 (4) the number of units for bilingual education determined under
17 AS 14.17.047.

18 • Sec. 3. AS 14.17.041 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

19 (e) The instructional unit calculation for a school district with an ADM of 900
20 or less that consists of one funding community is increased by multiplying the
21 instructional units calculated under (a) or (b) of this section by the appropriate factor
22 set out in the following table:

23	District ADM	Factor
24	1 - 250	1.12
25	251 - 525	1.08

1

526 - 900

1.06."

2 Renumber the following bill sections accordingly.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 294

Revision Date: <u>January 28, 1998</u>	Dept. Affected: <u>EDUCATION</u>
Title: <u>An act relating to local and state</u>	BRU: <u>K-12</u>
Funding: <u>education funding.</u>	Component: <u>Foundation Program</u>
Sponsor: <u>Representative Kubina</u>	
Requester: <u>H Hess, Finance</u>	COMPONENT SERIAL NO. <u>141</u>

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGES IN REVENUES						
---------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
Other:						
TOTAL	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4	37,895.4

Estimate of current year (FY98) cost: \$

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (attach a separate sheet if necessary.)

Section 1 will increase required local effort from the North Slope, Skagway, Unalaska, and Valdez by \$1.45 million. Section 2 will increase State Foundation Entitlements to all school districts across the state by \$39.45 million. The Impact Aid deductible for North Slope, Unalaska and Valdez school districts will increase. Section 1 and 2 combined will increase the total Foundation Entitlements by \$37.9 million.

Prepared by: Eddy Jeans, School Finance Manager
Division: Education Support Services

Phone: 465-8679

Date: 01/28/98

Approved by Commissioner: Shirley J. Holloway, Ph.D.

Date: 1/28/98

Agency: Department of Education

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ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROJECTED FY99 FOUNDATION PROGRAM House Bill 294		A	B	C	D
School District:		Section 1: Change in Required Local Effort: From 35% to 40% of Basic Need.	Section 2: Change in Basic Need: Unit Value from \$61,000 to \$64,000	Change in Impact Aid Deductible: Impact Aid Adjustment	Change in State Aid
1	ALASKA GATEWAY	-	261,180	-	261,180
2	ALEUTIAN EAST	-	202,410	-	202,410
3	ALEUTIAN REGION	-	60,060	-	60,060
4	ANCHORAGE	-	12,218,430	-	12,218,430
5	ANNETTE ISLAND	-	124,140	-	124,140
6	BERING STRAIT	-	1,013,010	-	1,013,010
7	BRISTOL BAY	-	130,440	-	130,440
8	CHATHAM	-	144,540	-	144,540
9	CHUGACH	-	79,800	-	79,800
10	COPPER RIVER	-	307,470	-	307,470
11	CORDOVA	-	166,590	-	166,590
12	CRAIG	-	132,720	-	132,720
13	DELTA/GREELY	-	275,640	-	275,640
14	DENALI	-	153,960	-	153,960
15	DILLINGHAM	-	222,630	-	222,630
16	FAIRBANKS	-	4,236,900	-	4,236,900
17	GALENA	-	331,980	-	331,980
18	HAINES	-	139,020	-	139,020
19	HONAH	-	101,190	-	101,190
20	HYDABURG	-	54,600	-	54,600
21	IDITAROD	-	284,700	-	284,700
22	JUNEAU	-	1,453,590	-	1,453,590
23	KAKE	-	71,460	-	71,460
24	KASHUNAMUIT	-	121,770	-	121,770
25	KENAI	-	2,845,920	-	2,845,920
26	KETCHIKAN	-	654,570	-	654,570
27	KLAWOCK	-	78,510	-	78,510
28	KODIAK ISLAND	-	889,170	-	889,170
29	KUSPUK	-	294,990	-	294,990
30	LAKE & PENINSULA	-	354,870	-	354,870
31	LOWER KUSKOKWIM	-	2,102,400	-	2,102,400
32	LOWER YUKON	-	881,700	-	881,700
33	MAT-SU	-	3,348,720	-	3,348,720
34	NENANA	-	69,740	-	69,740
35	NONE	-	286,380	-	286,380

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROJECTED FY99 FOUNDATION PROGRAM House Bill 294		A	B	C	D
School District:		Section 1: Change in Required Local Effort: From 35% to 40% of Basic Need.	Section 2: Change in Basic Need: Unit Value from \$61,000 to \$64,000	Change in Impact Aid Deductible: Impact Aid Adjustment	Change in State Aid
36	NORTH SLOPE	(966,784)	906,360	(110,606)	(171,030)
37	NORTHWEST ARCTIC	-	1,039,530	-	1,039,530
38	PELICAN	-	29,970	-	29,970
39	PETERSBURG	-	203,040	-	203,040
40	PRIBILOF	-	109,320	-	109,320
41	SITKA	-	429,210	-	429,210
42	SKAGWAY	(56,000)	52,500	-	(3,500)
43	SOUTHEAST ISLAND	-	156,510	-	156,510
44	SOUTHWEST REGION	-	421,020	-	421,020
45	ST. MARY'S	-	72,900	-	72,900
46	TANANA	-	64,260	-	64,260
47	UNALASKA	(152,160)	142,650	(39)	(9,549)
48	VALDEZ	(274,784)	257,610	(3,906)	(21,080)
49	WRANGELL	-	145,830	-	145,830
50	YAKUTAT	-	77,940	-	77,940
51	YUKON FLATS	-	330,030	-	330,030
52	YUKON/KOYUKUK	-	377,970	-	377,970
53	YUPIIT	-	247,830	-	247,830
54	ALYESKA CORRESPONDENCE	-	196,541	-	196,541
55	MT EDGE CUMBE	-	84,450	-	84,450

Totals: \$ (1,449,728) \$ 39,459,671 \$ (114,551) \$ 37,895,392

Column A: Section 1: Amends AS 14.17.025, increases local contribution percentage from 35% to 40%.

Column B: Section 2: Amends AS 14.17.056 increases instructional unit value from \$61,000 to \$64,000.

Column C: Impact Aid Adjustment - As local effort & Basic Need increase so does the deductible Impact Aid.

Column D: Total change in state aid.