

HB

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HB 670



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STATE OF ALASKA  
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March 5, 2003

The Honorable Pete Kott  
Speaker of the House  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 208  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Speaker Kott:

Under the authority of art. III, sec. 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill that would discontinue the state start-up grants for charter schools. The state grant program, implemented in FY2002, allocates \$500 per ADM for each new charter school. This funding was intended to supplement the federal start up grants for charter schools.

The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development is working closely with U.S. Department of Education to increase the level of start-up grants provided by the federal government therefore eliminating the need for the state supplemental grant program beginning in FY 2005. The state will allocate to a new charter school \$150,000 a year for the first three years and \$45,000 in the fourth year for a total of \$495,000 in start up funds over the four year period.

This bill is effective July 1, 2004. The delayed implementation will allow the state to fulfill its commitment of start-up grants to the existing charter schools. Any new charter schools approved to operate in FY 2004 will be eligible for the federal grant funds.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

Frank H. Murkowski  
Governor