

HCR

14

Representative Mike Hawker

Alaska State Legislature



HCR 14 Sponsor Statement

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Bird
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Whittier
Sunrise
Hope

Short Title: Amend Uniform Rules: Standing Committees

HCR 14 is part of the recommendations adopted by the Joint Legislative Education Funding Task Force (JLETF). The resolution would amend the Uniform Rules to establish Education Standing Committees in both the legislative bodies. HCR 14 is identical to HCR 202, which passed the House on October 29, 2007, but did not pass the Senate.

The JLETF met during June, July and August of 2007. During discussion of the education funding formula, the Task Force determined that the many variables that affect education and education funding merit the regular and continuing attention of dedicated committees separate and apart from the Standing Committees for Health, Education and Social Services.

Establishing Standing Committees on Education, formally charged with recurring review of the foundation formula, regularly updating district cost differentials, general education policy and University of Alaska oversight will allow thorough review of education policy and funding in the limited time of a legislative session.

Unalaska City School District



Unalaska City School District Supporting Recommendations of the Joint Legislative Education Funding Task Force Report

WHEREAS, The Joint Legislative Education Funding Task Force met regularly over the summer; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force accepted public testimony, and openly discussed and debated the merits of various changes to the education funding formula; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force prepared a Report to the Legislature and the Governor with stated recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of the Task Force Recommendations will improve public education in Alaska and provide school districts with a more equitable and stable funding mechanism; and

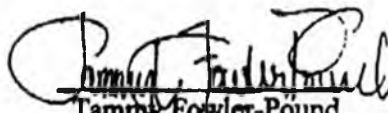
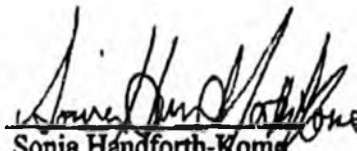
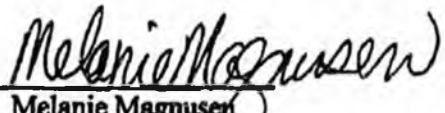
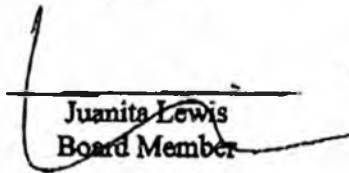
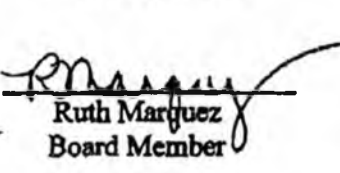
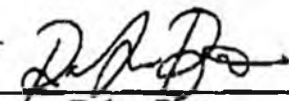
WHEREAS, the implementation of the Task Force Recommendations will directly benefit students in the Unalaska City School District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Unalaska City School District Board of Education supports the Task Force Recommendations; and specifically finds the following recommendations of high importance:

- The passing by the Legislature of SB 125 (PERS/TRS cost sharing) in substantially the same form as it currently exists;
- The creation of standing Education Committees in the House and Senate to oversee and review all education issues in the state;
- The referral to the Education Committee of the various long-term issues discussed in the Task Force report;
- The implementation of the ISER district cost factor, phased in to statute over time as set out in the Task Force recommendations;
- The phased in increases in intensive needs funding with those increases set into statute;
- The recalibration of the transportation reimbursement rate based on the most recent actual audited costs; and
- An increasing Base Student Allocation amount set in statute for fiscal years 2009, 2010 and 2011, at an amount that will keep pace with projected cost increases over those years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Unalaska City School District Board of Education specifically recommends that the Legislature adopt the Joint Legislative Education Funding Task Force recommendations within the first thirty (30) days of the legislative session.

ADOPTED this 24th day of January, 2008 by the Unalaska City School District Board of Education.

 Tammie Fowler-Pound President	 Sonia Handforth-Kome Clerk/Treasurer	 Melanie Magnusen Board Member
 Juanita Lewis Board Member	 Ruth Marquez Board Member	 Robyn Burt Student Representative