

HJR

29

<TARGET><BILL>HJR 29</BILL><SUBJECT>HJR
29</SUBJECT><COMM>SRES30</COMM></TARGET>

REPRESENTATIVE
GEORGE RAUSCHER
House District 9

Rep.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov



Session
State Capital, Suite 426
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Tel: 907 465-4859
Toll Free: 888-465-4859

Interim
600 E Railroad Ave. Suite 1
Wasilla, Alaska 99654
(907) 373-6287

Sponsor Statement

House Joint Resolution 29

“Urging the United States Congress to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Communities Self-Determination Act of 2000.”

House Joint Resolution 29 calls on the US Congress to pass legislation extending the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) and Communities Self-Determination Act of 2000.

Since 1908, the Forest Service provided counties and schools 25 percent of the revenues collected from management activities on the National Forest System. The SRS program was enacted in 2000 to provide funding for communities and schools to compensate for steep reductions in revenues from timber harvests.

In Alaska the Act provided funding for schools in communities in and near the Chugach National Forrest and the Tongass National Forrest. The expiration of SRS created dramatic budgetary shortfalls for local school districts.

This resolution calls on Congress the re-authorize this long-standing federal obligation to local governments and schools, and enact a sustainable long-term program to share revenues generated from the management of designated federal lands.

I encourage the passage of this resolution.

If you have additional questions please contact Darrell Breese in my office at 465-4859.

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 4/12/18

FURTHER: Rules

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 4/17/18

Resources Committee considered CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 29(FIN)

HJR 29 REAUTHORIZE SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS ACT

Urging the United States Congress to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

and recommends:

- be replaced with SCS _____ (_____) Same Title Technical Title Change
 New Title/SCR No. _____
- adopt previous SCS _____ (_____) Same Title Technical Title Change
 New Title/SCR No. _____
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt _____ Letter of Intent
- further referral to _____ Committee

Dept Abbr.	
ADM	LWF
CED	LAW
COR	LEG
EED	MVA
DEC	DNR
DFG	DPS
GOV	REV
DHS	DOT
AJS	UA

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #
LEG			✓	1

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	Wiclechowski			✓	
	Bishop	✓			
	Coghill	✓			
	Steaman				✓
	Meyer			✓	
CHAIR:	Giessel	✓			

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Explanation of Changes

HJR 29 to CSHJR 29 (FIN)

“Urging the United States Congress to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Communities Self-Determination Act of 2000.”

House State Affairs

The Committee Substitute corrected an error in the list of Copy of Recipients, removing the Secretary of Interior and including the Secretary of Agriculture. This change reflects that the US Forest Service is under the Secretary of Agriculture, which manages the Secure Rural Schools and Self-Determination Act of 2000.

House Finance Committee

Changes were made to reflect the authorization of two years for the program made under the Federal Omnibus Spending bill recently passed by the US Congress; and to modify the resolution call for a permanent authorization of the Secure Rural Schools Funding program.

Page 2, following line 11 inserts:

“Whereas the US Congress has temporarily authorized the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 for Federal Fiscal Years 2017 and 2018; and

Page 2, line 14

After “to”

Inserts “permanently”

Page 2, line 22

After “1027”

Inserts “or legislation to permanently”

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2018 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	CSHJR 29(STA)
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(H) Publish Date:	2/2/2018

Identifier: HJR29-LEG-SESS-01-26-18
 Title: REAUTHORIZE SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS ACT
 Sponsor: RAUSCHER
 Requester: HSTA

Department:
 Appropriation:
 Allocation:
 OMB Component Number: 0

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2019	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2019 Request	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2019	FY 2019					
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2018) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2019) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency?
 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Initial Version. One Page. Zero Note.

Prepared By:	JESSICA GEARY, DEPUTY DIRECTOR	Phone:	(907)465-6626
Division:	LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY	Date:	01/26/2018 08:54 AM
Approved By:	PAM VARNI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Date:	01/26/2018
Agency:	LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY		



March 19, 2018

Co-Chairs Seaton and Foster, and Members of the House Finance Committee:

My name is Dr. Mary Wegner, and I am the superintendent of the Sitka School District. I am testifying today in support of HJR 29, Reauthorize Secure Rural Schools Act.

Thank you for your consideration of advancing support for the reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000. Secure Rural Schools funding is critically important to the Sitka School District, as well as many other school districts around Alaska. The Sitka School District resides in the Sitka Borough of which 95% is comprised of Tongass National Forest. Around Alaska local municipalities have a limited ability to generate local tax revenue to support schools and roads due to the surrounding national forests, which is why it is so imperative that this act is immediately reauthorized and funded. The loss of Secure Rural Schools funding places an onerous burden upon our local citizenry, and federal assistance is appropriate compensation for the surrounding federal land.

In your advocacy on behalf of the reauthorization of Secure Rural Schools, please seek a long-term reauthorization of the legislation, as failure to do so has the potential to wreak long-term damage on public education in Sitka and in communities across the state and nation. The limits imposed by national forests are a reality every year, which is why authorization is critical every year. This issue is so pressing to us in Sitka that on February 6, 2018 the Sitka School Board passed a resolution in support of HJR 29.

Having Secure Rural Schools funding as a revenue source in the Sitka School District's FY19 budget would greatly help to save teacher jobs. Providing an excellent education to every student every day requires quality teachers combined with a culturally responsive learning environment with targeted instruction to meet a student's individual learning needs. All of which helps us to live the three commitments of Alaska's Education Challenge, which are increasing student success, cultivating safety and well-being, and supporting responsible and reflective learners. In Sitka we are facing a budget deficit that is 12% of our total general fund budget, and we need this federal funding to keep our talented teachers.

Thank you for taking my testimony, and thank you for your commitment to public education in Alaska. I hope you will urge the U.S. Congress to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools Act.

Sincerely,

Mary Wegner, Ed.D.

From: Ralph Crosslin <ralphc@yakutatschools.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 1:15 PM
To: Rep. George Rauscher
Subject: Secure Rural Schools

Dear Rep. Rauscher,

On behalf of the Yakutat School District Board of Education and the staff, students and parents of this community I wish to offer our strong support for a resolution requesting the authorization/continuation of the Secure Rural Schools funding. This funding is crucial to the success of our students. SRS is the primary funding source of the City and Borough of Yakutat contribution to our school programs. Without this revenue we will be forced to reduce our teaching staff at a time when an increase is imperative.

Thank you for your continued support.

—
Ralph O. Crosslin, Superintendent
Yakutat School District
ralphc@yakutatschools.org
Work: (907) 784-3317 Ext. 226
Cell: (231) 313-9215

Dear Representatives,

I am writing in support of the resolution urging Congress to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools program. Our Petersburg schools rely heavily on these funds to meet the needs of our students. We offer a rich learning experience and are notoriously fiscally responsible. The funds we depend on from this resolution have a direct impact on every student. Thank you for your support in this vital piece of our funding.

Teri Toland

--

Teri Toland, Principal
Stedman Elementary

ttoland@pcsd.us

877.526.7656

<http://www.pcsd.us>

From: Susan Sciabbarrasi
To: Rep. George Rauscher
Subject: Secure Rural Schools (SRS) program
Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 1:55:00 PM

I am writing in support of reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) program, ie., Timber Receipts. Chatham School District is made up of 4 communities in Rural Alaska. Each site has between 10-75 students per site and the sites are many miles apart, therefore, the only access is by seaplanes or the ferry system. The cost for travel as well as receipt of goods and services to these remote areas continues to rise. It is difficult for areas outside of the State of Alaska to understand the challenges when there are no roads in or out of the towns and a thousand miles from a major city.

Last year was the first year without those funds and this year we have had to reduce our certified teaching staff to offset that loss. Our students are among the most needy academically (approximately 30-35% proficient) and that loss will have an even greater impact on the education of our students. Those funds have been used to offset our Food Service programs in the two Native Communities. Without those funds, we may not be able to continue providing two solid meals per day for our students since the NSLP program does not fully fund our expenses due to the cost to ship food to the remote villages. Those two meals are staples for many of our students.

In addition, next year we will be required to continue to reduce our staff, services, materials and supplies. We will not be able to provide our teachers with staff development opportunities that aides in their effectiveness and student success. We will have to limit our extra-curricular and sports activities and travel. All of which, are detrimental to our students' current success as well as their post secondary endeavors.

When the Timber industry declined, the Timber Receipts were the saving factor for many of our communities and they have helped to sustain them over the past years. With no other viable industry is several villages and towns around the state, I feel the students will suffer tremendously if these funds are not reauthorized.

Therefore, it is my fervent hope that you will maintain your past commitment to these communities who rely on those funds to be able to provide for the bare necessities for many of our school children.

Thank you for your consideration.

Susan

Susan Sciabbarrasi
Superintendent
Chatham School District
Angoon, Alaska

FFY16 SRS/NFR Payments Final (SFY17)

Borough	Title I (Schools/Roads)		Title III	Total
Anchorage	\$ 62,762.77			\$ 62,762.77
Sitka	\$ 544,966.70			\$ 544,966.70
Haines	\$ 145,550.63			\$ 145,550.63
Juneau	\$ 577,396.58		\$ 47,550.31	\$ 624,946.89
Kenai Peninsula	\$ 461,099.98			\$ 461,099.98
Ketchikan Gateway	\$ 993,052.08			\$ 993,052.08
Mat-Su	\$ 19,650.50			\$ 19,650.50
Petersburg	\$ 577,742.67			\$ 577,742.67
Skagway	\$ 15,819.36		\$ 1,302.77	\$ 17,122.13
Wrangell	\$ 922,952.08			\$ 922,952.08
Yakutat	\$ 624,040.26			\$ 624,040.26

Unorganized Borough	Title I Schools	Title I Roads	Title III	Total
City of Craig	\$ 486,879.33	\$ 19,205.46	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 516,084.79
City of Hoonah	\$ 184,491.26	\$ 18,691.95		\$ 203,183.21
City of Hydaburg	\$ 115,101.50	\$ 12,735.17		\$ 127,836.67
City of Kake	\$ 180,380.49	\$ 29,290.90		\$ 209,671.39
City of Klawock	\$ 202,167.56	\$ 21,156.82		\$ 223,324.38
City of Pelican	\$ 18,662.89	\$ 2,670.28		\$ 21,333.17
City of Angoon		\$ 15,795.72		\$ 15,795.72
City of Coffman Cove		\$ 41,348.23		\$ 41,348.23
City of Edna Bay		\$ 12,529.77		\$ 12,529.77
City of Gustavus		\$ 64,107.22		\$ 64,107.22
City of Kasaan		\$ 17,459.51		\$ 17,459.51
City of Port Alexander		\$ 2,772.98		\$ 2,772.98
City of Tenakee Springs		\$ 5,135.15		\$ 5,135.15
City of Thorne Bay		\$ 69,838.05		\$ 69,838.05
Annette Island SD	\$ 485,925.63			\$ 485,925.63
Chatham SD	\$ 278,216.76			\$ 278,216.76
Southeast Island SD	\$ 312,714.32			\$ 312,714.32
City of Cordova	\$ 652,554.32	\$ 57,610.03		\$ 710,164.35
City of Valdez	\$ 1,196,537.28	\$ 136,093.83		\$ 1,332,631.11
Chugach SD	\$ 121,763.22			\$ 121,763.22
City of Whittier		\$ 33,934.67		\$ 33,934.67
Metlakatla Comm. Dev.		\$ 71,686.70		\$ 71,686.70

Unorganized Borough totals:

Tongass School	2,264,539.74
Tongass Road	404,423.91
Chugach School	1,970,854.82
Chugach Road	227,638.53
Borough Payments	4,945,033.61
Title III Payments	58,853.08
Total payments:	9,871,343.69

Calculated by: J. Julian

R. Parks

J. Mason

Certified by: D. Lindoff

DCRA CAA Section 3/2016

FFY17 SRS/NFR Payments (SFY18)

Borough	App	Title I (Schools/Roads)	Title III	Total
Anchorage	✓	\$ 3,581.13		\$ 3,334.03
Sitka	✓	\$ 49,388.93		\$ 45,981.09
Haines	✓	\$ 30,166.31		\$ 28,084.83
Juneau	✓	\$ 43,274.53		\$ 40,288.59
Kenai Peninsula	✓	\$ 15,473.81		\$ 14,406.12
Ketchikan Gateway	✓	\$ 91,315.67		\$ 85,014.89
Mat-Su	✓	\$ 9,861.55		\$ 9,181.10
Petersburg	✓	\$ 41,876.22		\$ 38,986.76
Skagway	✓	\$ 2,663.55		\$ 2,479.77
Wrangell	✓	\$ 47,826.36		\$ 44,526.34
Yakutat	✓	\$ 36,693.68		\$ 34,161.82

Unorganized Borough	App	Title I Schools	Title I Roads	Title III	Total
City of Craig	✓	\$22,040.31	\$1,658.91		\$ 23,699.23
City of Hoonah	✓	\$8,893.93	\$1,614.56		\$ 10,508.49
City of Hydaburg	✓	\$6,270.82	\$1,100.03		\$ 7,370.85
City of Kake	✓	\$8,293.04	\$2,530.06		\$ 10,823.11
City of Klawock	✓	\$8,824.60	\$1,827.47		\$ 10,652.07
City of Pelican	✓	\$966.82	\$230.65		\$ 1,197.47
City of Angoon	✓		\$1,364.39		\$ 1,364.39
City of Coffman Cove	✓		\$3,571.54		\$ 3,571.54
City of Edna Bay	✓		\$ 1,082.29		\$ 1,082.29
City of Gustavus	✓		\$5,537.40		\$ 5,537.40
City of Kasaan	✓		\$1,508.10		\$ 1,508.10
City of Port Alexander	✓		\$239.52		\$ 239.52
City of Tenakee Springs	✓		\$443.56		\$ 443.56
City of Thorne Bay	✓		\$6,032.41		\$ 6,032.41
Annette Island SD	✓	\$23,172.76			\$ 23,172.76
Chatham SD	✓	\$12,799.71			\$ 12,799.71
Southeast Island SD	✓	\$13,536.96			\$ 13,536.96
City of Cordova	✓	\$12,085.25	\$2,991.08		\$ 15,076.33
City of Valdez	✓	\$21,204.19	\$7,065.92		\$ 28,270.11
Chugach SD	✓	\$2,167.17			\$ 2,167.17
City of Whittier	✓		\$1,761.87		\$ 1,761.87
Metlakatla Comm. Dev.	✓		\$6,192.09		\$ 6,192.09

Unorganized Borough totals:

74.72/25.28 % ~ Tongass/Chugach split using the 7 year average allocation

Tongass School 104,798.96
 Tongass Road 34,932.99
 Chugach School 35,456.61
 Chugach Road 11,818.87

Certified by: Debi Kruse
 8/29/2017

Borough Payments 346,445.34
Title III Payments 0.00

DCRA CAA Section

Total payments: 533,452.76 with 6.9% Sequestor Reduction