

ALASKA LEGISLATURE

1751

HOUSE and SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE FILES, 1997-1998

Candice  
Central  
Alaska  
2nd Grade

We need money for  
field trips and basic books.

Please do not take money  
from our District!

To the Legislatures:

March 13, 1998.

Candice

Central, ALASKA  
1st Grader

Zain

To the Legisla. funder:  
We need as much money in our  
School as they do in  
Fairbanks! Please help us.

March 13, 1998



I please donot take money  
 from our  
 School. From Skyton  
 Central, Alaska  
 Kindergarten

near legs. Features:

March 13, 1998



Distributed by  
Rep. Foster  
By Request

Nightmute Traditional Council  
P.O. Box 90021  
Nightmute, Alaska 99690  
Ph.(907)647-6215 Fax(907)647-6112

Resolution No. 98-01-07

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING ALASKA SENATE BILL NO. 36 ENTITLED "AN ACT RELATING TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING PROGRAM; RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, TO THE TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS, TO SCHOOL DISTRICT LAYOFF PLANS, TO THE SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AGENCY, AND TO THE CHILD CARE GRANT PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

- WHEREAS, Native Village of Nightmute is a federally recognized entity. Represents the political interests and promotes the well being of the Yup'ik. Native tribal community of Nightmute Alaska, and
- WHEREAS, Native Village of Nightmute's role and responsibility includes advocating for the rights and interests of the people of the region in pursuing governmental services to address their basic human needs and improve their living conditions, and
- WHEREAS, The most important resource of the region is its children and it is of critical importance to provide for the future and well-being of the children through education which is a basic human right available to all children no matter where they live or what their ethnic background is, and
- WHEREAS, The State of Alaska formed and funded Rural Education Attendance Area School Districts to enable equitable and fair access to education of children living in rural remote villages throughout Alaska, and
- WHEREAS, Education of the children through the Rural Education Attendance Area School Districts is vital not only to provide for the future of the children, but also to maintain the indigenous native culture, integrity, way of life, general well-being and livelihood of the people throughout rural Alaska, and
- WHEREAS, The people of the region need and require the same level of basic education services afforded to all Alaskans, and
- WHEREAS, The Alaska State Legislature intends to extinguish rural education funding through Senate Bill 36 which seeks to redistribute education funding dollars from rural school districts to urban schools, redefining school district boundaries, proposing employment taxes of 4% for districts without an economic base, and redefining most education processes as know them, and
- WHEREAS, The AVCP region and many other rural Alaskan regions lack the economic infrastructure and economic base to bear the burden of an employment tax to finance basic education and other basic human services, and
- WHEREAS, Such a measure would cripple regions such as the AVCP region, already experiencing an economic disaster from recent fishery industry failures, and
- WHEREAS, Passage of this bill will have long and drastic effects on the operations of the rural school districts and the support and assistance in all areas of education provided for the children of the region, and

WHEREAS, Passage of this bill will also halt the enormous academic progress of the children living in rural Alaska in areas mathematics, reading, and writing, and in particular, it will halt the advancement of knowledge, skills and abitions of the children and their future contribution to the general well-being and economy of the region, and

WHEREAS, The rural school districts are working dilligently and successfully to suport and assist in this process.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Nightmute Traditional Council of Native Village of Nightmute respectfully implores and requests the Alaska State Legislature to reconsider its position and action towards the children of rural Alaska.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Nightmute Traditional Council of Native Village of Nightmute hereby opposes passage of Senate Bill No. 36 by the Alaska State Legislature.

PASSED 03-11-98 , by the Nightmute Traditional Council with a duly constituted quorum of members present.

*Joseph Post*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NIGHTMUTE TRADITIONAL COUNCIL  
PRESIDENT, JOSEPH POST

ATTEST:  
*John George*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR,  
JOHN GEORGE

**NATIVE VILLAGE OF MEKORYUK**

INDIAN REORGANIZATION ACT COUNCIL

P.O. Box 56  
Mekoryuk, Alaska 99630  
(907) 827-8828  
Fax (907) 827-8133

MAR 18 1998

March 13, 1998

Representative Gail Phillips  
Juneau, Ak.

RE: OPPOSITION TO SB-36

Dear Honorable Phillips:

I live at Nunivak Island located about 650 miles west of Anchorage. Mekoryuk is the only inhabited village on Nunivak with 190 year round residents.

Our school, Nuniwarmiut Schools, student population is 59 from Preschool to 12th grade. These 59 students are our future leaders, and perhaps abroad. They deserve quality education just as their peers at urban centers. Education of our children is our number one priority.

Nuniwarmiut Schools employ approximately 15-20% of the above village population. Because we live so far away from the urban cities, all school employees mail order their goods, supplies, clothing, snow machines, etc. from Anchorage and Fairbanks. This business transaction benefits the urban business establishment.

Our community has no solid economic base. Enactment of Senate Bill 36 will have a dramatic impact on our lives. Dependency on welfare will increase bi-fold, small schools may be closed or operating partially, and a negative economic chain reaction will occur.

I urge you to make a wise decision on this critical issue that will affect combined rural and urban communities.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,  
Hultman I. Kiokun  
President

PAST PRESIDENTS

Moses Nayiruk • Peter Smith, Sr. • Tom Dotomain • Jesse Moses • Walter Amos • George K. Whitman, Sr.  
Edward J. Shavings, Sr. • George King, Sr. • Henry J. Shavings • Joseph David, Sr. • Jerry David, Sr.  
Fred Don • Howard T. Amos • Samson Weston • Hultman Kiokum  
Tom Amos • Solomon Williams • Daniel Olrun, Sr.

*Edith Float*

Edith Float  
Program Director

cc: Austerman  
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Bunde  
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Kelly P.  
Kemplen  
Kohring  
Kookesh  
Kott  
Kubina  
Martin  
Masek  
Moses  
Mulder  
Nicholia  
Ogan  
Porter  
Rokeberg  
Ryan  
Sanders  
Therriault  
Vezey  
Williams



CENTRAL COUNCIL  
tingit and haida INDIAN TRIBES of alaska  
ANDREW P. HOPE BUILDING  
320 West Willoughby Avenue • Suite 300  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-9983

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March 13, 1998

## State Legislators

MAR 18 1998

Article VII, Section 1, of the Alaska State Constitution states:

The legislature shall by general law establish and maintain a system of public schools open to all children of the State, and may provide for other public educational institutions. Schools and institutions so established shall be free from sectarian control.

The 1995 edition of Random House Webster's College Dictionary defines *sectarian* as:

3. narrowly confined or limited in interest, purpose, etc.
5. a bigoted or narrow-minded person.

Clearly, the proposed legislation that will take education funding from rural Alaska and limit state education funding to a select number of Alaska communities based on some phony criteria is unconstitutional. How such unconstitutional and divisive legislation makes it through the legislative process to a point of passing the Senate is impossible to understand. Allocating money to school districts for basic education on any basis other than what the education costs are in those districts is unconstitutional.

You cry "equal access to Alaska's resources and protect the Constitution at all costs" in the subsistence debate, while totally abandoning those principles in allocating Alaska's financial resources to Alaska's children for education. Integrity is in short supply.

(No response necessary.)

With love,

Edward K. Thomas  
President

Tara Fuller  
Box 115  
Cold Bay, AK 99571

March 15, 1998

Representative Mark Hanley  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol (MS 3100)  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

MAR 23 1998

Representative Hanley,

I am writing this letter as a concerned parent in the state of Alaska. I am in opposition of SB36-School Funding, which is basically a shuffling of money between districts in the state. I cannot believe a bill that would have such drastic impacts on rural school districts would even be considered. SB36 does infact have some very good and much needed changes, however not at the expense of rural districts. Funding at the current level, with no increase along with inflation has been causing school districts to cut vital programs for our children and our future. How can children be expected to learn what they need to survive as adults when classroom size has increased drastically due to combined classrooms, a result of cutting teacher positions from a lack of funding or less bang for the buck(inflation) I was born and raised in what is now Aleutians East Borough School District, which is a 6 site school district. We have 4 smaller sites and 2 larger sites. If this bill infact does pass we would have to start closing the doors at some of our schools. In the area we live this would be devastating as no school in a community would mean no community. I would urge you to seriously consider the impact of the current SB36.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Tara P. Fuller

Tara P. Fuller  
Parent and School Board Member in Aleutians East Borough  
School District

# ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 429  
Sand Point, Alaska 99661-0429  
Phone: (907) 383-5222  
FAX: (907) 383-3496

March 18, 1998



The Honorable Randy Phillips, Chair  
Legislative Budget and Audit Committee  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

SB36

MAR 23 1998

Dear Senator Phillips:

I have reviewed the Supplemental Summary Report prepared for your committee by The McDowell Group, and this report has changes in it that make the disparity between what the rural districts and urban districts receive in State Foundation Aid even greater than the original report.

It would seem basic to me, as one who previously ran a district of 3400 students, with 6 schools, each no more than 7 minutes away from one another, that one cannot operate a 6 site school district with 375 students, in a district that covers 8000 square miles, for an equivalent cost per student. Neither can I operate with the same size administrative team that I previously had when I now have to cover 6, K-12 schools for 375 students, spread over 8000 square miles. The 18.2% cut that the SB 36 proposes would force us to:

- reduce staff from 2 teachers to 1 teacher per school in our small sites. This would mean that 1 teacher would teach all subjects K-12, including Special Education. This is unreasonable, and no good teacher would take this assignment, because they know it can't be done. They also know they are putting themselves at risk when they are the only professional adults in a building with adolescent boys and girls. Added to this, is the fact that when the teacher is absent, there is no trained professional in the building with the students. This is a lawsuit waiting to happen.
- We will have to combine classes in the larger sites, and this will take the class size to 25-30, with a span of 2 or 3 grade levels in many classes.
- We will have to reduce the number of course offerings in our schools, thus leaving our students with inadequate high school educations, and at a rank disadvantage when competing with other students in the workplace or in the college admission pool.
- We will have to reduce our student activity program, because we will not have money to transport our teams. We have to fly everywhere, unlike those in urban areas where buses can be used.
- We will definitely have less qualified teachers. We have recruitment problems now, due to the high cost of living in our sites (rent, food, transportation). The difficulty of teaching so many courses and the wide age group, under risky conditions, will discourage good applicants.
- We will have to cut back on Special Education services, and this has legal implications. We currently fly itinerant people from site to site, but we will not have sufficient funds for this cost saving measure, and this will not allow us to serve our students with the services they require.

## SERVING

**AKUTAN**  
Box 25  
Akutan, AK 99553  
(907) 698-2205

**COLD BAY**  
Box 128  
Cold Bay, AK 99571  
(907) 532-2409

**FALSE PASS**  
Box 30  
False Pass, AK 99583  
(907) 548-2224

**KING COVE**  
Box 6  
King Cove, AK 99612  
(907) 497-2354

**NELSON LAGOON**  
Box 19  
Nelson Lagoon, AK 99571-8998  
(907) 989-2225

**SAND POINT**  
Box 269  
Sand Point, AK 99661  
(907) 383-2393

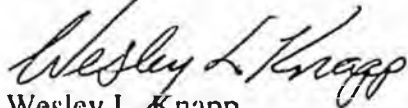
The list could go on, but suffice it to say, that it will devastate our program. What I find offensive about this bill, however, is it is clearly discriminatory against Native people. Anyone can look at the geographic area of Alaska that is being hurt by this bill, and it is clearly Native people in rural areas "taking the hit". As one who has been a proponent of civil rights throughout my career, which started in the 60's, I find it almost inconceivable that in the face of all that we have gained in our battle toward equality for all, that this bill would ever get to the floor for discussion. Leaving money aside, it is morally wrong, it offends my social conscience, and it should offend every U.S. citizen. It is discrimination at its worst.

Senator Phillips, I implore you to re-visit this bill with an eye toward what is morally right, and what will help all students in Alaska receive an education that will allow them to achieve all that they are capable of achieving, irrespective of their heritage or location. I ask that you not get yourself in the textbooks of this country, as the man who authored a bill that took from the less fortunate, and gave to the more fortunate. The children of Alaska did not chose their parents and their skin color, and they didn't choose the villages and areas in which their parents chose to live. I ask you not to hold these kids hostage while a financial/political battle is waged which is not of their doing. To make these children pawns in a political game is unconscionable.

This bill, if passed, will guarantee that the students in Aleutians East Borough School District will have their educations and their futures put at risk. Our Borough Assembly currently supports education at a level which is 2 times the minimum requirement of the State. Clearly, this area is doing well in trying to support education at the local level as best they can. Many people in this Borough are of Aleut descent, they are proud of their heritage, and the part they have played in making what is now the State of Alaska, the great state that it is. They deserve better than having someone tell them they are worth less than people who live in urban areas.

I look forward to your reply and would request that you delay further action on this legislation until questions such as how the formula will be implemented are determined, since there seems to be some discrepancy between the January and February reports. I ask that you examine Senate Bill 36 in light of civil rights and equality for all. This bill flies in the face of everything we teach our students regarding citizenship, civil rights, and human values.

Sincerely yours,



Wesley L. Knapp  
Superintendent

cc: Memry Myers, AEBSB Board Chair  
Dick Jacobsen, AEB Mayor  
The Alaska Legislature  
Governor Tony Knowles  
AASA  
AASB  
CEAAC

## Native Village of Kwigillingok

Kwigillingok I.R.A. Council  
P.O. Box 49  
Kwigillingok, Alaska 99622  
(907) 588-8114/8212

### RESOLUTION NO. 98-03-01

A resolution opposing Senate Bill No. 36 entitled "An Act relating to the public school funding program; relating to the definition of a school district, to the transportation of students, to school district layoff plans, to the special education services agency, and to the child care grant program; and providing for an effective date."

**WHEREAS:** The Kwigillingok I.R.A. Council is the federally recognized governing body for the Native Village of Kwigillingok and the only governing system recognized by the people of the village, and;

**WHEREAS:** The Native Village of Kwigillingok's most important resource is its children and will do everything to protect their interests from adverse actions and activities generated from within and without the exterior boundaries of the Native Village of Kwigillingok, and;

**WHEREAS:** Our Yupik children are receiving their Elementary and High School education from the Lower Kuskokwim School District, one of the State of Alaska's Regional Education Attendance Areas in one of the States most impoverished area, and;

**WHEREAS:** The Alaska State Legislature is proposing legislation from the Senate Chambers through Senate Bill 36 which seeks to redistribute education funding dollars from rural school districts to the urban school districts, redefining school district boundaries, proposes an employment tax of 4% for districts without an economic base, and generally redefines most education processes as we know them, and;

**WHEREAS:** The passage of this particular bill will be devastating to our local school and a cursory analysis of the impacts of the bill reveals that due to the drastic cuts to the Lower Kuskokwim School District, our children may not receive free or reduced school lunch, no local support for the children that need it most, bi-lingual and Yupik instruction would be completely eliminated, the already deteriorating educational facility would not see any repairs or improvements, our already impoverished and unemployed people will bear the burden of a new tax, and;

**WHEREAS:** the enormous progress our Yupik children have made in terms of their abilities to read, write and calculate mathematics in a language that is, in the most basic sense, foreign to them, and this language being English should prove that the efforts of the educational system is working diligently to advance the knowledge, skills and abilities of our Yupik children, and;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** The Native Village of Kwigillingok, through its tribal governing body, respectfully request and implore our State Legislature, both the House of Representative and the Senate not consider Senate Bill No. 36 unless and until a complete and full analysis of the impacts of this bill to all school districts within the State of Alaska is done, and;

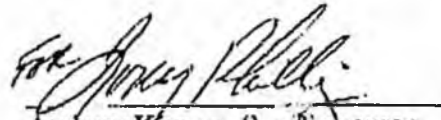
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT:** The Kwigillingok I.R.A. Council, the tribal governing body of the Native Village of Kwigillingok is in complete and unqualified opposition to this proposed bill on behalf of its Yupik children.

8

**CERTIFICATION**

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that a duly called meeting of Kwigillingok I.R.A. Council, with a membership of five (5), of the Native Village of Kwigillingok held on March 5, 1998 by an affirmative vote of five (5) a negative vote of zero (0) adopted the foregoing resolution.

  
Tommy J. Andrew, President

  
Andrew Kunya, Treasurer

3/13/98

To: Representative Mark Hanley  
House of Representatives  
State Capital, Room 507  
Juneau, AK 99801

From: Michael M. Ripke  
P.O. Box 65  
Chefornak, AK 99561

Dear Mr. Hanley:

I am writing a letter to ask for your support in voting against Senate Bill 36. First of all I'm concerned about the loss of Federal aid that will result with the passage of this bill. Has it really been looked at what the loss of aid will entail if SB 36 is passed?

Most of Rural Alaska's municipal governments have no existing laws that relate to the disposal, acquisition or taxation of municipal property. Where there is no existing tax base, I feel that taxation among REAA residents and employees discriminates against a minority of the rural sector.

At least half of the state's population resides in urban areas. Allocating aid to school districts on a per child basis will affect rural districts where the number of students is disproportionate. There should be an equitable way to fund both rural and urban school districts.

Also I feel that the quality of rural education will decrease if school districts are forced to eliminate essential personnel in small schools that have a teacher : student ratio that is equivalent or greater to urban schools.

Again I strongly urge a bipartisan vote that opposes SB 36. This is not a rural or urban issue, this is an Alaskan issue that will affect the quality of education for years to come. Yes, there has to be an equitable way to fund our educational system. SB 36 does not address this. Perhaps it is time to consider an education fund that will provide future funding for our children's education.

Sincerely,



Michael M. Ripke

P.O. Box 61  
Tununak, Alaska 99681  
March 13, 1998

Representative Mark Hanley  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 507  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

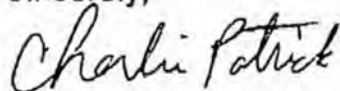
To the Honorable Mark Hanley:

My name is Charlie Patrick and I am a Senior in the Paul T. Albert Memorial School. I am concerned about Senate Bill 36.

This bill poses a serious threat to the quality education currently available in rural Alaskan communities. I wholeheartedly support the goals put forth in the Alaska educational standard and am worried that the cuts attached to Senate Bill 36 will drastically affect their realization.

Thank you for reading this letter

Sincerely,



Charlie Patrick

P.O. Box 11  
Tununak, Alaska 99681  
March 13, 1998

Representative Mark Hanley  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 507  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

To the Honorable Mark Hanley,

My name is Benjamin Angaiak and I am a senior in Tununak, Alaska. I am concerned about Senate Bill 36.

The bill poses a serious threat to the quality education currently available in rural Alaskan communities. I wholeheartedly support the goals put forth in the Alaskan Educational Standards and am worried that the cuts attached to Senate Bill 36 will drastically affect their regulation.

Thank you for reading this letter.

Sincerely,

*Benjamin G. Angaiak*

Benjamin Angaiak

P.O. Box 115  
Tununak, Alaska 99681-0115  
March 13, 1998

Representative Mark Hanley  
House Of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 507  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

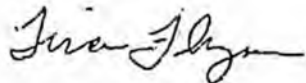
To the Honorable Mark Hanley:

My name is Tina Flynn and I am a Junior at Paul T. Albert Memorial School. I would like to voice my concern about Senate Bill 36.

The bill poses a serious threat to the quality education currently available in rural Alaskan communities. I wholeheartedly support the goals put forth in Alaska Educational Standards and am worried that the cuts attached to SB36 will drastically affect their regulation.

Thank you for your time in reading this letter.

Sincerely,



Tina Flynn

# *Akiak Native Community*

## *Akiak IRA Council*

*P.O. Box 52127*

*Akiak, Ak 99552*

PH. (907) 765-7112

FAX (907) 765-7512

### RESOLUTION NO. 98-03-01

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING ALASKA SENATE BILL NO. 36 ENTITLED "AN ACT RELATING TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING PROGRAM; RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, TO THE TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS, TO SCHOOL DISTRICT LAYOFF PLANS, TO THE SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AGENCY, AND TO THE CHILD CARE GRANT PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE."**

**WHEREAS:** The Akiak Native Community (ANC) represents the political interests and promotes the well-being of the community of Akiak, and

**WHEREAS:** ANC's role and responsibility includes advocating for the rights and interests of the people of the community in pursuing governmental services to address their basic human needs and improve their living conditions, and

**WHEREAS:** The most important resource of the community is its children and it is of critical importance to provide for the future and well-being of the children through education which is a basic human right available to all children no matter where they live or what their ethnic background is, and

**WHEREAS:** The State of Alaska formed and funded Rural Education Attendance Area School Districts to enable equitable and fair access to education of children living in rural remote villages throughout Alaska, and

**WHEREAS:** Education of children through the Rural Education Attendance Area School Districts is vital not only to provide for the future of the children, but also to maintain the indigenous native culture, integrity, way of life, general well-being and livelihood of the people throughout rural Alaska, and

**WHEREAS:** The people of the community need and require the same level of basic education services afforded to all Alaskans, and

**WHEREAS:** The Alaska State Legislature intends to extinguish rural education funding through Senate Bill 36 which seeks to redistribute education funding dollars from rural school districts to urban schools, redefining school district boundaries, proposing employment taxes of 4% for districts without an economic base, and redefining most education processes as we know them, and

**WHEREAS:** The Akiak Native Community and many other rural Alaskan villages lack the economic infrastructure and economic base to bear the burden of an employment tax to finance basic education and other basic human services, and

(cont'd) Resolution 98-03-01 Page 2

**WHEREAS:** Such a measure would cripple communities such as Akiak, already experiencing an economic disaster from recent fishery industry failures, and

**WHEREAS:** Passage of the bill will have long and drastic effects on the operations of the rural school districts and the support and assistance in all areas of education provided for the children of the community of Akiak, and

**WHEREAS:** Passage of this bill will also halt the enormous academic progress of the children living in rural Alaska in areas of mathematics, reading, and writing and in particular, it will halt the advancement of knowledge, skills and abilities of the children and their future contribution to the general well-being and economy of Akiak, and

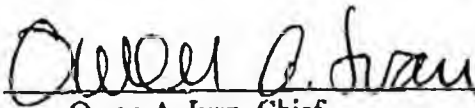
**WHEREAS:** The rural school districts are working diligently and successfully to support and assist in this process.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Akiak IRA Council of the Akiak Native Community respectfully implores and requests the Alaska State Legislature to reconsider its position and action towards the children of rural Alaska.

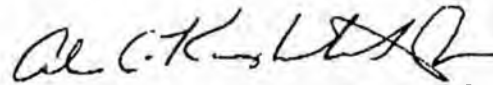
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Akiak IRA Council of Akiak Native Community, hereby opposes the passage of Senate Bill 36 by the Alaska State Legislature.

**PASSED** on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1998, by the Akiak IRA Council with a duly constituted quorum of members present.

**CERTIFICATION**



Owen A. Ivan, Chief



Adam Kashatok, Sec. / Treas.

**FAX****Date** 03/14/98**Number of pages including cover sheet****TO:** Mark Hanley  
State Capitol, Room 507  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182**Phone** 907-465-4939  
**Fax Phone** 907-465-2418**FROM:** John Wachmann, Site  
Administrator  
Chefornak Schools  
PO Box 50  
Chefornak, AK 99561**Phone** 907-867-8700  
**Fax Phone** 907-867-8429**CC:****REMARKS:**  Urgent  For your review  Reply ASAP  Please Comment

RE: SCSB36

As a school administrator in the Lower Kuskokwim School District I should have a certain bias against the kind of cuts that my district would suffer if this bill passes. However, please understand that I work daily with the students, staff and parents who would be drastically effected by these kind of cuts. I now have to make difficult judgments as to how dollars are allocated and choices have to be made. SCSB36 would mean budget cuts so severe that educational programs deemed necessary for the survival of the Yup'ik language and culture would be eliminated. Please do appreciate the gravity of this situation and work with your fellow members of the Senate and House to revise or vote against SCSB36 so that these First Nation peoples may retain and continue their language and culture. Quyana (Yup'ik for thank you.)

P.O. Box 114  
Tununak, AK 99681  
13 March, 1998

Representative Mark Hanley  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 507  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

To the Honorable Mark Hanley:

I am writing this letter to express my concern over Senate Bill 36. This measure, if passed, will drastically affect rural communities throughout the state.

Alaska has a unique position in the Union. Its communities have varied economic standings, yet schools have always been treated fairly and have been supported with equal access to state funds. The legislation before you now would change this egalitarian dispersal; routing money away from rural schools towards urban centers.

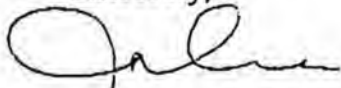
New York, Chicago, cities in Texas, and various other inner-city schools face the problem of too little funding every day. Because the tax bases of inner-city schools are so small, their areas simply do not generate enough money to operate effective educational programs. States in the lower 48 are trying to brainstorm ways to reduce this school funding disparity and would do well to look to Alaska for leadership. However, if Alaska was to pass this legislation, the state would join others with disparate, biased funding plans.

SB 36 is not the answer to any problems which may now exist. A solution needs to be sought which ultimately reflects goals of providing a quality education to all of Alaska's children.

Please do not pass legislation that pits one group against another. We have a small population and it is crucial that we present a united front when faced with problems such as this. Do not improve the quality of one life at the expense of another. None of us has the right to decide which individuals will benefit and which will suffer.

I implore you to reflect upon what I ask. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Joshua D. Andrews



P.O Box 15  
Tununak Alaska 99681  
March 13, 1998

Representative Mark Hanley  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 104  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

To the Honorable Mark Hanley:

My name is Gloria Kanrilak. I am in the 8th grade and I am 14 years old. I am concerned about Senate Bill 36.

If SB36 passes, the students of Rural Alaskan communities will suffer. The overall quality of education in Alaska will decline without proper funding. I believe that this result is contradictory to Alaska's commitment to quality education as defined by the Alaskan Educational Standards.

Well funded schools in rural settings are part of what makes Alaska a cutting-edge state. Please do not vote for this legislation or abandon your commitment to a large portion of Alaska's future.

Thank you for taking you time to read this letter.

Sincerely,



Gloria Kanrilak

P.O. Box 63  
Tununak, Alaska 99681  
March 13, 1998

Representatives Mark Henley  
House of Representatives  
State Capital, Room #507  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

To the Honorable Mark Henley:

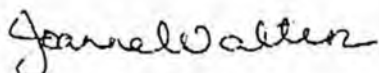
My name is Joanne Walter and I am in 9th grade. I go to school in Paul. T. Albert. Memorial. School. I am writing because I am concerned about the S. B. 36.

If S.B. 36 passes, the students of rural Alaskan communities will suffer. The overall quality of education in Alaska will decline without the proper funding. I believe that this result is contradictory to Alaska's commitment to quality education as defined by the Alaskan Educational Standards.

Well Funded schools in rural settings are part of what makes Alaska a cutting-edge State. Please do not vote for this legislation or abandon your commitment to a large portion of Alaska's Future.

Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,



Joanne Walter

P.O. Box 61  
Tununak, Ak 99681-0061  
March 13, 1998

Representative Mark Hanley  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room #507  
Juneau, Ak 99801-1182

To the Honorable Mark Hanley:

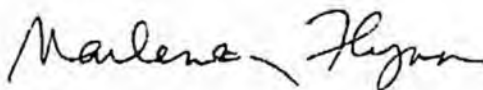
My name is Marlene Flynn and I am a student at Paul T. Albert Memorial School in Tununak, Ak. I am writing this because I am concerned with Senate Bill 36.

If SB 36 passes, the students of rural Alaskan communities will suffer. The overall quality of education in Alaska will decline without the proper funding. I believe that this result is contradictory to Alaska's commitment to quality education as defined by the Alaskan Educational Standards.

Well-funded schools in rural settings are part of what makes Alaska a cutting-edge state. Please do not vote for this legislation or abandon your commitment to a large portion of Alaska's future.

Thank you for taking time to read this letter.

Sincerely,



Marlene Flynn

P.O. Box 14  
Tununak, AK 99681  
March 13, 1998

Representative Mark Hanley  
House of Representatives  
State Capital, Room #507  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

To the Honorable Mark Hanley:


My name is Anna Kailukiak and I am a tenth grade student in the Paul T. Albert Memorial school. I am writing because I am concerned about SB 36.

If SB 36 passes, the students of rural Alaskan communities will suffer. The overall quality of education in Alaska will decline without the proper funding. I believe that this result is contradictory to Alaska's commitment to quality education as defined by the Alaskan Educational Standards.

Well funded schools in rural settings are part of what makes Alaska a cutting-edge state. Please do not vote for this legislation or abandon your commitment to a large portion of Alaska's Future.

Thank you for taking the time reading this.

Sincerely,

  
Anna Kailukiak

P.O. Box 31  
Tununak, Alaska 99681-0031  
March 13, 1998

Representative Mark Hanely  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 507  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

To the Honorable Mark Hanely,

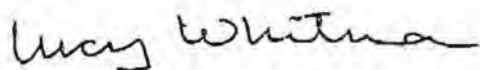
My name is Lucy Whitman. I am an eighth grader at Paul T. Albert Memorial High School. I am concerned with Senate Bill 36.

If Senate Bill 36 passes, rural Alaskan students, teachers and families will suffer. Students' futures will also be ruined. The overall quality of education in Alaska will decline without the proper funding. I believe that this result is contradictory to Alaska's commitment to quality education as defined by the Alaskan educational Standards.

Well-funded schools in rural settings are part of what makes Alaska a cutting-edge state. Please do not vote for this legislation or abandon your commitment to a large portion of Alaska's future.

Thank you for taking your time reading this. I just hope that you don't vote for this legislation.

Sincerely,



Lucy Whitman

P. O. Box 11  
Tununak, AK 99681-0011  
March 13, 1998

Representative Mark Hanley  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 507  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

To the Honorable Mark Hanley:

Hello, my name is Josephine Angaiak and I am from Tununak. I am an 8th grader of Paul T. Albert Memorial High School. I am writing to you because I am concerned with Senate Bill 36.

If Senate Bill 36 passes, the students of rural Alaskan communities will suffer. The overall quality of education in Alaska will decline without the proper funding. I believe that this result is contradictory to Alaska's commitment to quality educating as defined by the Alaskan Educational Standards.

Well-funded schools in rural settings are part of what makes Alaska a cutting-edge state. Please do not vote for this legislation or abandon your commitment to a large portion of Alaska's future.

Thank you for taking your time to read this letter.

Sincerely,

*Josephine Angaiak*  
Josephine Angaiak

P.O. Box 51  
Tununak, AK 99681  
March 13, 1998

Representative Mark Hanley  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 507  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

To the Honorable Mark Hanley:

My name is Nina Menegak from Tununak. I am an 8th grader of Paul T. Albert Memorial School. I am writing because I am concerned with Senate Bill 36.

If Senate Bill 36 passes, the students of rural Alaskan communities will suffer. The overall quality of education in Alaska will decline without the proper funding. I believe that this result is contradictory to Alaska's commitment to quality educating as defined by the Alaskan Educational Standard.

Well-funded schools in rural settings are part of what makes Alaska a cutting-edge state. Please do not vote for this legislation or abandon your commitment to a large portion of Alaska's future.

Thank you for taking your time to read this letter.

Sincerely,



Nina Menegak

# United Utilities, Inc.

Affiliate of Unicom



Steve Hamlen  
President

March 13, 1998

18-349  
The Honorable Mark Hanley  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 507  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Hanley:

United Utilities, Inc. provides telecommunications services in 58 rural Alaskan communities. We are concerned with the unprecedented budget cuts to rural schools contained in SB 36. All of our citizens are deserving of legislative decisions that are carefully thought out and are based upon an impartial analysis of all the facts.

SB 36 would transfer approximately \$31 million from rural school districts to Anchorage. The Lower Kuskokwim School District, for example, has informed us that they would lose approximately \$8.4 million, 150 classified staff, and 60 teachers. These funding cuts are substantial and I am concerned for the ongoing ability of our native Alaskan children to receive a suitable education. I'm also concerned that this debate has turned into a contest of us versus them (urban versus rural). I've been told that a new funding formula is being proposed that includes factors, such as the ability to raise educational funds via property taxes, that are unrealistic and designed to favor one constituency over another.

Please carefully consider the merits of SB 36. Something is wrong here and it will be our native children who will be disadvantaged if it is not fixed. I wish that all of our legislators could visit our rural schools including our school in Hooper Bay and then compare these schools with any school in Anchorage. I have little doubt that anyone could walk away from these visits and suggest that the funding for our rural schools should be reduced.

Sincerely yours,

An Alaskan Native Owned Corporation

5450 A Street  
Anchorage, AK 99518-1281

<http://www.unicom.alaska.com>

(HON) 478-2020  
(907) 561-1674

Fax (907) 563-3185

STARR JENSEN M.ED.  
Quinhagak, Ak 99655

MAR 13 1998

To: Representative Mark Hanley  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 104  
Juneau, Ak 99801-1182

I am very concerned with the possibility of SB 36 passing. I teach in bush Alaska and know how devastating the budget cuts would be to our schools. We are now serving up to 30 students at a time in each, over-crowded classroom. There are more jobs and requirements than there are teachers to do them. We work long hours and volunteer many more to serve the students. This budget cut would require more work from the teachers, less materials to teach the students with, less teachers to do the work. There are already less opportunities for our students than are available to children schooled in Urban Alaska. It costs more to maintain village schools-but it also costs more to live here. Things that are minimal to Urban life are expensive in the village. This includes food, technology, materials, travel, electricity, etc. Our students deserve the same opportunities afforded other students in Alaska and the proposed budget cuts will interfere with their right to those opportunities. Please do the right thing on behalf of ALL students and vote NO on SB 36.

Sincerely,



Starr Jensen

**Jeffrey W. Lipscomb**  
9921 Main Tree Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99516  
(907) 346-5500 (P)  
(907) 346-5505 (F)

February 3, 1998

VIA Fax (907) 465-4714

Senator Gary Wilken  
State Capital, Room 510  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Subject: School Funding Formula, SB 36

Dear Senator Wilken,

For two years now I have been actively following the expenditure practices of the Anchorage School District. As you and other Legislators have heard the Anchorage School District Superintendent and School Board members state on many occasions, the Anchorage School District has almost 40% of the students in the state but only receives about 30% of the state education aid. It isn't fair!

I concur! Not only is the distribution of state education aid unfair but the distribution of instructional money within the Anchorage School District is unfair and discriminatory! For example, currently the Anchorage School District provides each high school with \$20,000 a year for activities. That money sure goes a lot further at West High School among its 1490 students as compared to the 2244 students at Service High School. It isn't fair! The larger high school has almost 800 more students but receives the same amount of money for activities as the smallest school. Similarly, principals, librarians and security staff are all allocated by school regardless of enrollment. Activity money and support staff i.e. principals, nurses, librarians, teaching assistants etc. should all be distributed equally on a per student basis just like teachers and supplies. The Anchorage School District is practicing "instructional unit" methodology, with all of the inherent faults, in its budgeting of individual schools

I continue to solicit support from State Legislators to include in any Foundation Formula rewrite, a requirement for local school districts to expend instructional dollars equally on a per student basis. This change in State Law is necessary because of the inequities in the Anchorage School District expenditures and resistance to change. With Anchorage School District school board members elected at large, it is impossible for a minority community such as the Service High School attendance area to affect change. We have no elected representative charged with looking out after our interest and we have no checks and balances in the system since the school administration (Executive Branch) reports to the school board (Legislative Branch). This same situation may be occurring in other school districts around the state.

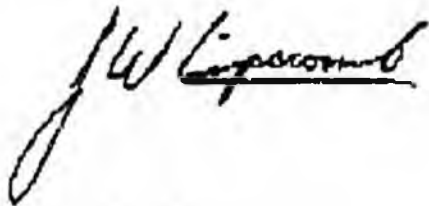
This is not strictly a local issue as the Alaska Constitution charges the Legislature to "by general law establish and maintain a system of public schools open to all children of the State."

**Jeffrey W. Lipscomb**  
 9921 Main Tree Drive  
 Anchorage, Alaska 99516  
 (907) 346-5500 (P)  
 (907) 346-5505 (F)

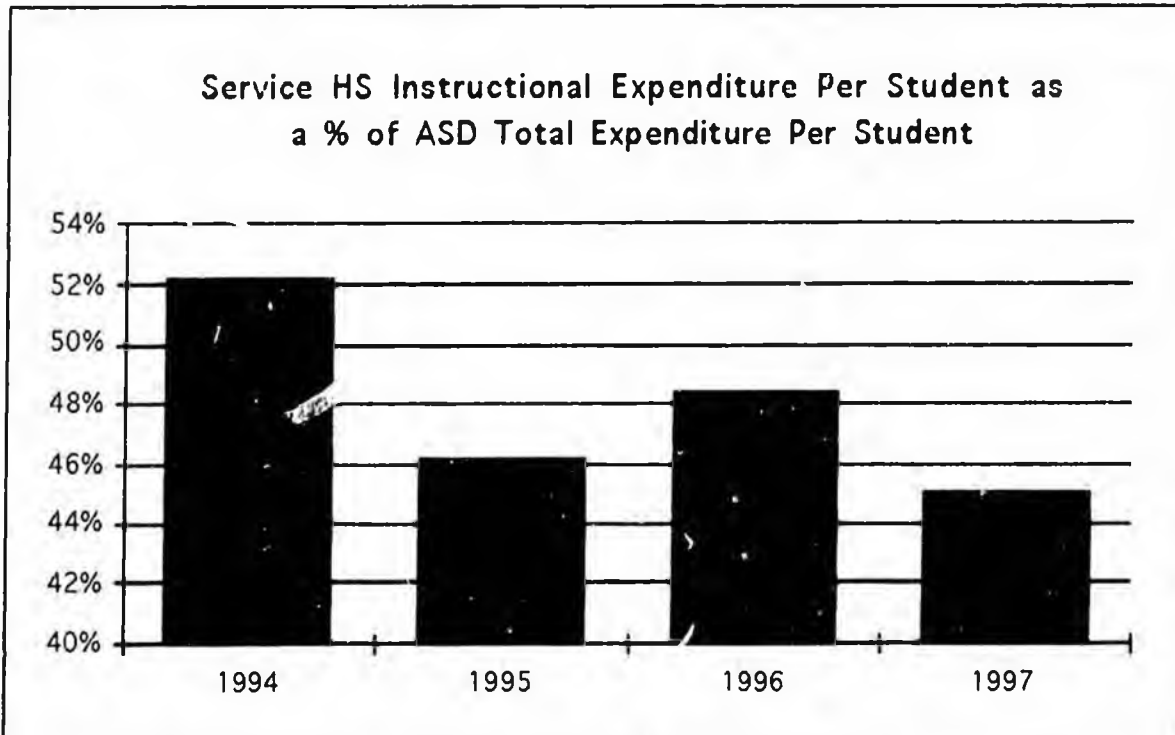
"Equal level of educational opportunities" is already on the books in AS 14.17.220. It needs more definition. We agree for need to rewrite the Foundation Formula to make it more fair by equalizing the money available to Alaska school districts. The Legislature must go one step further and make sure local school districts expend the money the same way, ... equally on a per student basis.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and I hope we can count on your support!

Sincerely,



- cc: Con Bunde
- Sean Parnell
- Joe Green
- Dave Donley
- John Cowdery
- Jerry Ward
- Randy Phillips
- Loren Leman
- Mark Hanley



APR 02 1998

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I would like to take the time to say that I support the passing of SB36.

I have by this time, pretty much thrown up my arms in disgust with the whole education funding situation and said that this year I wouldn't bother writing to any legislators as they were pretty unresponsive. However, this bill does provide some hope and I will put "pen to paper" again.

I honestly don't know what the answer to educating our young people in Alaska should be, and SB 36 may not be it, but I do know that something is not right. In order for my children (I have three) to have all that I had in school I must pay sports fees, art fees, band fees, book fees, music fees and more, of course, for field trips. They have to do "walk-a-thons", "ski-a-thons", organize carnivals, sell raffle tickets and wrapping paper and I don't know what else. This is not just once or twice, but year after year. I find it embarrassing to even face some of my neighbors and this is probably one of the wealthiest states in the country. You can talk all you want about 40% of the general fund going into education, but no matter which way you cut it, it's not working. This year the classes are overcrowded, and we've lost the music program in the grade school; next year we face losing the art program, home-ec, and the high school music program. Our teachers are expected to do more and more to bring up the quality of education in this country with less and less funding.

SOMETHING NEEDS TO BE DONE. Personally I think it's time for Alaskans start paying state taxes like the rest of the people in this country.

Thank you again,

*Sue Faust*

Sue Faust

Box 1404

Seward, AK 99664

*Distributed by Rep. Davis*

Representative Mark Hanley  
State Capital  
Juneau, AK 99801 1182

Cheryl J. Pratt  
Primary Teacher  
One Seaview Lane  
Shishmaref, AK 99772

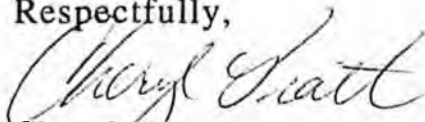
I am writing to you because I am extremely disappointed and discouraged with the passage of Senate Bill 36. This bill steals away much needed funding from the rural schools giving it to the large urban school districts.

It is sad to know that such a bill could go as far as it has. It is disheartening to realize how little some people actually care about the education of **all** students in Alaska.

The joy of working in rural Alaska and the hope of a brighter future for my students continues to grow for me and many others throughout the state. I applaud and encourage the efforts of many who are helping to make a difference for these very important children and their families but am also appalled and alarmed at the destructive efforts of those casting a dark cloud on the already disadvantaged situation.

Hopefully you will continue your most important and consequential work in our great state of Alaska with the concerns of everyone united. I urge you to not allow Senate Bill 36 to go any further.

Respectfully,



Cheryl Pratt  
Teacher  
Shishmaref Alaska

Donna L. Barr  
P.O. Box 72118  
Shishmaref, AK.  
99772

March 25, 98

Head start  
teacher aide

Dear Representative Mark Hanley,

This bill on putting more money into urban schools and cutting money on rural schools is no way to go into the future. From what I grew up and learned from school was and is very important for us natives as the western civilization took over our way of life. Education is our main objective now that technology is all around us in our homes and stores and workplace. Even though we are a small community in the middle of sand and water our children deserve every right as big cities children who attend school for education to go to their own school with their own culture included along with the education they are receiving.

I am 22 years old now, I can remember when I first attended school when I was 4 years old, that feeling of learning the alphabet and math counting made me feel good that we have a school in our town. Our parents and grandparents had no big classrooms and activities to participate in when they were young. It's because our life style has changed since then. They had no phones, computers, typewriter and so on. They were still living in their native way, hunting and gathering to survive. Then the settlers start coming in and teach the natives to speak english and tried to give them a small school to attend. School was important back then to our grandparents, because they had to learn about

these new people and the way of their lives. That's what my grandparents told me about their first school years.

Now it's their great grand-children who are in school and time has changed our community a whole lot. Education now is our only future, if we don't get it, what kind of jobs or knowledge are we going to have to raise our children. Our children are getting a very good education now, compared to when I was in grade school.

I have 4 children of my own and 3 of them are attending our community school and are learning a lot more than what I learned at that age. Computers are a big learning tool for them. I have a daughter who is 1 year old and I hope that the bill SB36 won't ruin her future of attending her own community school. I don't think big schools has a right to take away small schools <sup>(funds)</sup> money in education. Even if we are small in size we still deserve every right to have our children get an education in their hometown of the United States of America.

Stress this "Children are our Future", whether they are in a big or small school.

Please vote 'No' on SB36, we have rights too!

Sincerely,

Donna L. Barr

Donna L. Barr

Carol E. Ningenlook

Substitute Teacher & Community Member

Dear Representative Mark Hanley,

The bill you are going to pass for SB36 is not going to do good for our students. So I prefer you not to pass it. The students will have a harder time in school without all the help they need and support to get them through the school. There are some students that need help with their education. The only way they will get help is by having teachers. And without the principle the students wouldn't have any discipline and encouragement to get them through the school year. So I'll say no to pass SB36.

Sincerely,  
Carol E. Ningenlook

our school is important to us. by Pearl Weyouanna

We keep our school cleaned and nice. by Lot

We do special things in school. by GILFORD

I like to color and draw and paint in school. by Holly

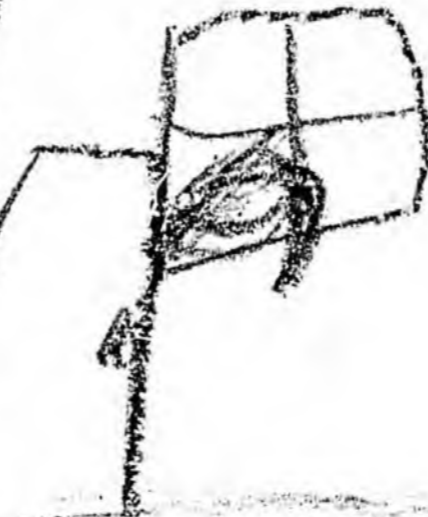
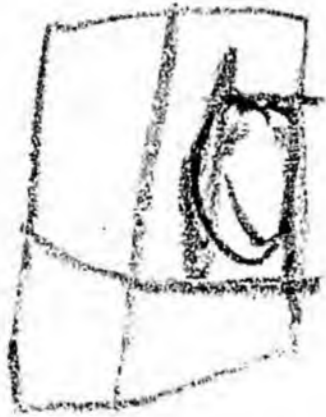
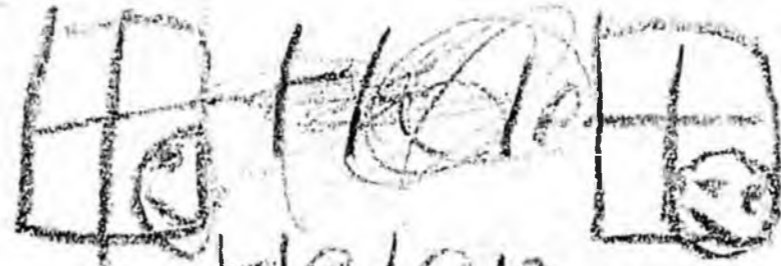
The teachers always teach us little kids. by FAYE

We work hard in school. by Frieda

We always do good things in school. by Heather

I just like our school a lot. Please help our school so I could learn a lot. by Verne

When we make good choices, it is important. by Robert



My Helen  
age 5  
Shishmaref,  
Alaska



IRA Council  
P.O. Box 100  
Shaktoolik, Alaska 99771-0100

Phone (907) 955-3701

Fax (907) 955-2352

APR 02 1998

Native Village of Shaktoolik  
Resolution 98-08

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING SENATE BILL 36.**

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of Shaktoolik, IRA Council is an Alaska Native Village organized as an Alaska Native/American Indian Organization Act of 1934, as amended in 1936 for Alaska; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of Shaktoolik, IRA Council is the elected governing body of the Alaska Native/American Indian people of the Native Village of Shaktoolik; and,

**WHEREAS**, Education plays a vital role to the students in our Rural Communities; and,

**WHEREAS**, to now be successful in the Western World, we are encouraging our children to achieve the highest education possible in our Rural Communities; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Bering Strait School District is educating our students to become self-sufficient, productive citizens in a changing world recognized for their social, academic and marketable skills; and,

**WHEREAS**, with Proposed Bill 36, a lot of our Vital Programs would be lost; and,

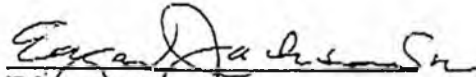
**WHEREAS**, with Senate Bill 36 in place, Education for our Rural Students would be put in Turmoil leveling our Rural Students to the lowest Education possible, when Education is ranked at the Highest Priority Level.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Education is ranked as a very, very high priority for our students in the Rural Areas.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that based on the critical criteria's listed above, we urge you to vote NO on Senate Bill 36; or uphold the Governor's Veto of said bill.

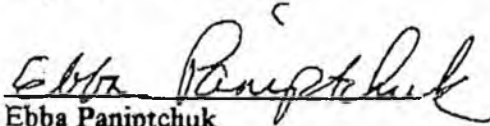
**CERTIFICATION**

We, the undersigned members of the Native Village of Shaktoolik, IRA Council do hereby certify that the Native Village of Shaktoolik, IRA Council is composed of seven (7) members of whom 5 voted on this 02nd day of April, 1998 and the foregoing resolution was adopted by the vote of 5 members.

YES 5NO 0ABSTAIN 0ABSENT 2

Edgar Jackson Sr.

Vice President



Ebba Paniptchuk

Secretary



## SOUTHEAST ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

1621 TONGASS AVENUE SUITE 301  
POST OFFICE BOX 8340  
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901  
PHONE: (907) 225-9656  
FAX: (907) 225-2336

RAY GRIFFITH, Ed.D.  
SUPERINTENDENT

APR 02 1998

March 30, 1998

House of Representatives  
Alaska State Capital  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative:

As president of Southeast Island School District Board, I am writing with serious anxiety about SB 36 and SB 337. Singly SB 36 would devitalize our district. If the Legislature chooses to combined the two bills the devastation would be incomprehensible.

The board, as trustees take our role of providing education for the children in our communities very seriously. We represent twelve communities with schools at the present time. Our current duty and the law require we open and staff the twelve schools. The communities are entitled and the tenured staff have contracts on the opening day. SB 36 does not take into consideration the mandated opening of schools under the present law. Without an amendment to SB 36, we would have the schools open this August with the teachers, students and needed supplies in place and then if the count was down in October the school would be closed. This would leave us with unhoused students, angry parents, contracted teachers and chaos in almost half of our schools.

I rely on my experience as the first mayor serving five terms after the incorporation of Coffman Cove, a second class city in 1989 to address SB 337. I am familiar with Title 29 and know Third Class Boroughs were deleted from the law years ago. From what I gather in Title 29 is after incorporation of a Third Class Borough, an election takes place. Our REAA school board would be replaced by an assembly and mayor. The mayor is the school board president and the assembly is the board. The assembly after the election would pick the form of taxes the borough provides for the schools. The taxed communities are those in the former REAA with or without schools. The residents would be taxed if they had the schools surviving SB 36 and also if their schools were closed.

A Third Class Borough would require an administrator, a staff, an office and equipment. The selected taxation would be divided between the costs of the school district and borough. Two staffs unless the Supermau or Superwoman hired by the borough had the expertise in Local Government and School Administration. At the present time we are moving Southeast Island School District's District Office into rooms adjacent to our only gym, in the largest school in the district. I have no idea where a free or another inexpensive office space for a Third Class Borough would exist in our REAA.

We face the potential loss of our present school board members who may select not to run because of the added local government responsibilities and further erosion of our ability to provide education to the children of our district. Please consider all the facts, you are about to implement a chain of events that would devastate Southeast Island School District and the other REAAs. Please consider an amendment to SB 36 that would provide funding to cover the entire 98-99 school year. Then consider another mechanism to provide for the funding in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Rowland".

Pat Rowland  
Chair, Southeast Island School Board

(UNALASKA ATKA DANCERS)

Distributed by Rep. Messer

Speech by Crystal Swetzof at Legislative Reception 3/26/98

Hello, my name is Crystal Swetzof and I am a senior at the Atka Netsvetov school in Atka, Alaska. Atka is in the middle of the Aleutian chain and is one thousand two hundred miles southwest of Anchorage. We're so far out that we are in a separate time zone from the rest of Alaska.

On behalf of our dance group, I want to thank you for the chance to perform here, and I want to thank the senators and representatives who are here for supporting our school and allowing us to develop the dancing you have seen here tonight. We feel honored to have had this chance to perform in our state's capital for all of you.

In Atka, Unangax dance is the center of all our school programs and, moreover, the center of our community. In the school, it takes the place of music, art, physical education, and team sports. Through our dance we have found ourselves. We have come to realize the importance of keeping our culture alive.

I have been very fortunate to have attended school in my home village and to be in this dance group. Not only has it given me pride in myself and my people, but it has given me the confidence I would otherwise have not attained.

I am going to major in education when I go to college next year. I had planned to return to my village as a certified teacher and continue the dance program, but now I'm afraid Atka won't have a school left in four or five years. If there isn't, I suppose I could teach somewhere else, although it wouldn't have the same significance for me. But what about my younger sister? And all my younger cousins and friends? If the school in Atka closes, they will have to move away from Atka and away from the best thing that has happened for our culture since it began to die years ago, when missionaries came and forced our ancestors to stop dancing. If they all move away, it will mean certain extinction for our village and eventually our people.

We dedicate this performance to all the schools in rural Alaska. Please remember that the passion and eagerness with which we performed are present in all children in rural Alaska. Our awareness and participation in our Native cultures and educational systems keep that passion and eagerness alive in us. Qagaasakux. Thank-you.



Linda Beyer  
P. O. Box 163  
101 Chukchi Sea Way  
Shishmaref, AK 99772  
(907)649-2087/649-3021

25 March 1998

MAR 31 1998

Representative Mark Hanley  
Room 507, AK State Legislature  
State Capitol (MS3100)  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

I am writing to strongly urge you to vote **NO** on SB36. I have been a Bush teacher for 17 years now and every year we are expected to do more and more on fewer and fewer dollars. There is a point at which even the most creative teacher can no longer meet the needs of students when the dollars disappear.

Yes, it is a fact that Bush schools are more expensive to run but these students deserve to be educated near their home just the as those living in more urban areas. And, they should not be slighted in educational opportunities just because it costs more. Granted we do not have a tax base or many industries that can contribute to the educational dollars locally but few remember it is more the mystic of the rural regions that draw the tourists and their dollars to the state than our urban areas.

There are many fine schools in rural Alaska who are trying to improve learning through many innovative programs. Just a few of these include Success For All Reading that is increasing readings skill by leaps and bounds here in Shishmaref; use of the internet to access all types of resources; creating curriculum, setting benchmarks, and making use of alternative scheduling to improve attendance and increase the depth of learning. All of these take money and if SB36 passes these programs may be doomed. Is that fair or just for our rural students?

Please help us continue to offer our rural students a quality education by voting **NO** on SB36. Thank you for your careful consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

*Linda Beyer*

Sherri Nayokpuk, Sr. Class Pres.  
Shishmaref High School  
P.O. Box 72155

Shishmaref, Alaska 99772  
(907) 649-3021

MAR 31 1998

March 25, 1998

Representative Mark Hanley  
Rm 507, Alaska State Leg.  
State Capitol (MS3100)  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Mark Hanley:

Hello. My name is Sherri Nayokpuk. I am a senior at the Shishmaref High School and the Senior Class President. All my life I have been enrolled in the Shishmaref School.

This letter is in regards of the SB36. Here are some reasons to vote 'no' on this bill.

1. Rural students enjoy participating in school activities, i.e., math counts, spelling bees, battle of the books, skiing, basketball, and other activities that are within the schools.
2. Students use the library/media to get a better education on certain topics that can help him/her in the future.
3. We, the students, enjoy learning our bilingual/bicultural ways of life with the bilingual/bicultural teachers, i.e., sewing skins, carving ivory/bone, making fishing hooks, listening to the stories of our culture, and all that the teachers will/have teach us.

We don't want to lose these programs at/in our schools. These programs are needed for the future of youth and younger generations. Please vote 'no' on the SB36. Thank you for you time and cooperation.

Sincerely,

*Sherri Nayokpuk, Sr. Class President*

Sherri Nayokpuk, Sr. Class President  
Shishmaref High School

Nancy Fancyboy  
P. O. Box 5108  
Pilot Station, AK 99650  
Ph. & FAX #(907)549-3715

MAR 26 1996

Representative Mark Hanley  
Room 507  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182  
FAX #(907)465-2418

Dear Mr. Hanley:

Please do not support Senate Bill 36.

Senator Randy Phillips has stated that "[40 per cent of the students receive only 30%]" of the funding for education, citing that as unfair and an inequality in the funding formula. In fact, there are many legislators who follow this belief. That's a great public feeding-frenzy statement and on the surface appears to be a good argument. However, if you take a closer look, one can easily see that the inequality exists not for urban schools but for rural schools, instead.

Although I have not done an in-depth study, I do know as a consumer that everything in the bush costs quite a bit more than in urban areas. As a result, the school facilities, as a whole, are older and more dilapidated than any of those, say, in the Anchorage school district. Food services cost much more. Maintenance and materials cost much more, and on and on.

As an example, I will use the elementary school facility at Pilot Station. This facility is a former BIA facility, which tells you how old it is. It is in the flood zone, which causes many problems, including health hazards. (The bacteria does not go away with the flood.) This year, the sewer system, which is old and not designed for the growing number of students we have, was out for about 2 months. Students and staff had to use honey buckets for those two months.

I doubt this situation would exist in urban districts, but they need more money than rural districts? Some may say ours is an isolated incident. I do not think so. Our students have had to use honey buckets off and on every year for the seven years I have been here. I know other schools in the bush that have had to use honeybuckets, too. Some on a more permanent basis.

Have we whined about it? Have we really asked for anything more? Although this is a third-world situation to be in, people from the bush are not whiners - we have learned to make do with what we have. For me though, not this time.

We now have people complaining who have so much more than many of our students have. When I read in the Anchorage daily news that because of the inequality in funding the Anchorage school district had to cut elementary hockey rinks from their budget, my blood boiled. Perhaps for exercise, their students could come out and wade through the sewer water which floods our students' elementary playground every year. Then they would have something to complain about.

Most students in rural districts do not even receive music, P.E., or art - all considered core curriculum - because of lack of funds. What would you like to bet that the same people crying "inequality" are the same people complaining about our students' low test scores and the rate of welfare in our area, both directly related to quality of education. We have all heard them, and I am sure you can name some of them.

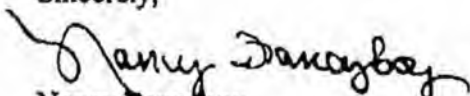
Some say that rural people should be taxed to pay their own way. That would be great if there was something to tax. The cold hard fact is that there are not enough jobs to provide the tax support needed to build schools and to support educational programs. For example, I estimate there are 60 - 70 jobs in our village. I also estimate there are about 175 eligible workers. There is only so much room on the market for native crafts and only so many jobs that stem from the school or city. The problem with wanting the rural districts to "pull themselves up their bootstraps" is very unrealistic.

And is it any coincidence that the people hurt most by this bill are Native children? It saddens me to think that it is not.

You know the truths. Please do not support Senate Bill 36.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Nancy Fancyboy

# Pelican City School District

MAR 30 1998

Proud to be Parent Friendly e-Mail PelicanSid@aol.com

P.O. Box 90 • Pelican, Alaska 99832 • Phone (907)735-2236 • Fax (907)735-2263

*Rick Erdrich, Superintendent*

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ISLAND

March 25, 1998

Honorable House of Representative Member  
Juneau, AK

Dear Representative:

I came to Alaska a few years ago because I was tired, frustrated and dismayed with education in the state I came from. I saw that declining revenues and the high cost of goods and services coupled with a lack of understanding in general about education by the Legislature was destroying the public school system. I am continually angered when required to implement unfunded mandates. The reality for me was that the people who were requiring the mandates didn't have a clue as to what teachers, classified staff or administrators in the schools were doing, let alone what impact the requirements had on those school districts. So what has changed? Where is the progressive state that I believed I was coming to?

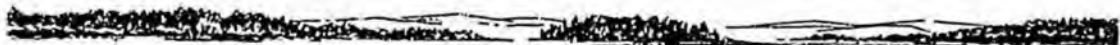
I saw Alaska as a progressive state where the welfare of children was given the highest of priorities. What happened in such a short period of time?

We have been told that SB36 is good for Alaska - that it will equalize education for all districts. I tell you it will destroy many districts as we know them today. Some 32 districts in rural Alaska representing 21,000 children will be affected. As Governor Knowles poignantly indicated, "This is not equality; it is inequity."

I am writing to ask you to vote no on SB36. This bill takes education in Alaska and returns it to the days of years gone by. Alaskan education would revert to the type of education one might see in remote third world countries. Is this what we want for Alaskan children? I don't think so.

I represent the smallest single site district in the state. The children of Pelican have as much right to an equal education as students from any urban area. It is understandable that our students won't have the exposure to the many opportunities other students have. We don't know what it's like to have ice hockey, baseball, drill team or dance. Our children travel to Sitka or Juneau once a year just to have the opportunity to swim in a pool. They don't mind not having all the amenities, they just want to be treated with respect on an equal basis. Rural schools provide a good education for these children. Because of the sound education they do receive, many rural graduates go on to college. Small rural schools are the cornerstone of education in Alaska.

If this bill is implemented in its present form, the Pelican School District will lose 35% of its funding. This would be the worst piece of legislation that has come along in many years. Pelican would lose 50% of its teaching staff; the business manager/personnel services position, the Superintendent position and



1/3 of the maintenance staff would be eradicated. Our budget would be cut by \$196,000. In addition to this figure, single site funding has the potential to be eliminated, bringing the total loss to well over \$250,000. Even with the personnel reductions, we would still be required to cut an additional \$100,000 to balance the budget. Where would we be forced to make these cuts? Student programs.

All travel would be eliminated, further reducing student exposure to urban life. Remember our children have no sports, save wrestling, which currently allows for one or two trips a year at best for 1-4 students, and maybe one out of district basketball game. We could offer no shop, music, bilingual/ bicultural programs. Staff development and training would cease to exist which would seriously impact our ability to to maintain current worthwhile programs.

Most districts in the state are expending a tremendous amount of time, energy and money on technology, which we can all agree is vital to our youths' education. We cannot let our children fall behind in this area. In addition, our goal of aligning our curriculum with state standards would seem almost unattainable. Additional major cuts would follow in the areas of school board services. Counseling and media services? Never had them in the first place. What sort of an education would you consider this to be? Equitable, fair, just? Pelican, like many other schools throughout the state would be in a despicable condition. One last area to consider is that all funding for ongoing and preventative maintenance for facilities would be eliminated. Buildings would continue to deteriorate to the point where they would be unsafe for children.

Is this what education in the 21 century is truly about? Do we want to spend the next 20 years digging our way out of a mess that can be avoided? I don't see how this can be considered anything but disastrous. This isn't good for Alaska, rural or urban. This bill divides the state and makes everyone, especially Alaskan children, losers. I urge you to vote against this piece of legislation.

Thank you for taking the time to listen. Your help is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Richard Erdrich  
Superintendent

cc: State Superintendents  
Pelican School Board

March 30, 1998

RE: SB38 School funding

Dear Legislature

Please vote YES on SB 38 School funding !!!

My question to the legislature is this: In the 40 years I have lived here I have spent several years in different villages around the state and the native people absolutely hate white people but they want to be handed free of charge every thing the white man has. Why are the Native Corporations not taking responsibility for the needs of the villages they represent??????

Am I missing the over all picture here? Every time I turn the news on I here this poor me syndrome from the natives GIVE ME A BREAK!!

Sincerely

  
Rita Kasper

P. O. Box 520507

Big Lake, Alaska 99652

907-892-7322

# Shaktoolik School

*"Home of the Wolverines"*

P.O. Box 40 Shaktoolik, Alaska 99771



Ph. (907) 955-3021

Fax (907) 955-3031

*The Mission of the Shaktoolik School is to educate all students to become self-supporting, productive citizens living a healthy lifestyle with pride in their cultural heritage by providing a variety of quality programs in academic, social, and vocational skills utilizing Traditional and Western styles of teaching.*

March 31, 1998

Honorable House Member  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Honorable Member of the House:

As a new educator in the state of Alaska, Senate Bill 36 disturbs me deeply. I was pleasantly surprised when I arrived in rural Alaska to find that our school district was progressive and ready to move into the next century with solid plans for educating our young people. The passage of Senate Bill 36 would effectively eliminate any possibility of our district achieving the goals set forth in those plans.

Senate Bill 36 is a thoughtless piece of legislation, not considering the fact that there are children in rural Alaska to educate. Should this bill pass, our district would face insurmountable hardships. The people who are hit hardest, obviously, would be our students. Rural Alaska faces some challenges that can be like no other in the country. We desperately need continued funding to allow our students the opportunities they deserve from a public education.

I would ask you to vote no on Senate Bill 36. I would, at the very least, like you to put yourself in the place of one of our students in rural Alaska. I do not think that a person could vote with a clear conscience for Senate Bill 36.

I appreciate the fact that you have a very difficult job to do. I hope that you will vote to represent the entire state of Alaska. Thank you for your time.

Yours in Education,

Brian Corlett  
Principal

March 31, 1998

Honorable House Members:  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Honorable Member of the Alaska House:

The community of Shaktoolik would like to ask for your help in regards to Senate Bill 36. While we are certain that this piece of legislation would benefit the urban districts in the state of Alaska, the bill would have devastating effects on our schools in rural Alaska.

Senate Bill 36 would all but eliminate all that has been accomplished in the educational arena in rural schools in Alaska. This is especially distressing news to us due to the fact that any future success for any rural school in Alaska rides directly on the non-passage of this bill. This bill would essentially eliminate any chance for future gains to come about with regards to rural Alaska's children.

Our district, The Bering Strait School District, would be rendered virtually inoperable by this piece of legislation. Our district administration would become non-existent, our food service program would suffer, if not be eliminated, and all of our student's opportunities for extra curricular activities would be eliminated. The students will ultimately be the ones who pay the price for Senate Bill 36. What does that say about the state's commitment to educating all of Alaska's children?

With this in mind we hope you will give serious thought before casting your vote on Senate Bill 36. We certainly need your support in order to keep moving ahead in rural education. We urge you to vote no on Senate Bill 36. If the bill is vetoed, it will be for legitimate reasons. Please support that veto. We believe Alaska is a place where all children should have a chance at an education.

Sincerely,  
Shaktoolik Residents

Helen J. Jackson  
Eileen Jackson Sr  
Edwina K. Katchatof Sr  
Mary Katchatof  
Clara Spikings  
Alex Spikings  
Lily L. Dorechuk  
Arlee W. Jackson  
Vanda Spikings  
Myrtle Hardy  
Dorechuk  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Takak  
Jennifer Corbett

Chris Panitchuk  
Isabelle Jackson  
Tara J. Jorgensen  
May L. L.  
Simon L. Bekovale Jr.  
Edda Panitchuk  
Hannah L. Takak  
Agnes R. Takak  
Dorechuk  
Marilyn L. L.  
Dorechuk  
Linda Panitchuk  
Brian Kusscheit  
Paul F. Asickak Sr.

Saul S. Kumpstok

Kimberly A. Bergly

Mabel Takak

Jimmy Hunt

Edna Sautelek

Kelly Apokhuak

Jessie Jean

Allen K. Hunt

Bob E. Apokhuak

Mary Sook

William Sautelik

John Kuntalik

Charles Takak

Jerry Inshovey

Carrie Katchokoy

Quar Corlex

Native Village of Kwinhagak  
 Quinhagak I.R.A. Council  
 P.O. Box 149  
 Quinhagak, Alaska 99866  
 (907) 556-8168 Fax: 556-8166



City of Quinhagak  
 City Council  
 P.O. Box 90  
 Quinhagak, Alaska 99865  
 (907) 556-8515 Fax: 556-8540

APR 01 1998

## RESOLUTION 98- -

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING ALASKA SENATE BILL NO. 36 ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING PROGRAM; RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, TO THE TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS, TO SCHOOL DISTRICT LAYOFF PLANS, TO THE SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AGENCY, AND TO THE CHILD CARE GRANT PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

WHEREAS, The Native Village of Kwinhagak (NVK) AND City of Quinhagak represents the political interests and promotes the well-being of the Yup'ik Tribal community of Quinhagak, Alaska; and

WHEREAS, NVK's and City's role and responsibility includes advocating for the rights and interests of the people of the region in pursuing governmental services to address their basic human needs and improve their living conditions; and

WHEREAS, The most important resource of the region is its children and it is of critical importance to provide for the future and well-being of the children through education which is a basic human right available to all children no matter where they live or what their ethnic background is; and

WHEREAS, The State of Alaska formed and funded Rural Education Attendance Area School Districts to enable equitable and fair access to education of children living in rural remote villages throughout Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Education of the children through the Rural Education Attendance Area School Districts is vital not only to provide for the future of the children, but also to maintain the indigenous native culture, integrity, way of life, general well-being and livelihood of the people throughout rural Alaska; and

WHEREAS, The people of the region need and require the same level of basic education services afforded to all Alaskans; and

WHEREAS, The Alaska State Legislature intends to extinguish rural education funding through Senate Bill 36 which seeks to redistribute education funding dollars from rural school districts to urban schools, redefining school district boundaries, proposing employment taxes of 4% for districts without an economic base, and redefining most education processes as we know them; and

WHEREAS, The NVK and City lack the economic infrastructure and economic base to bear the burden of an employment tax to finance basic education and other basic human services; and

WHEREAS, Such a measure would cripple regions such as NVK and City, already experiencing an economic disaster from recent fishery industry failures; and

WHEREAS, Passage of this bill will have long and drastic effects on the operations of the rural school districts and the support and assistance in all areas of education provided for the children of the region; and



WHEREAS, Passage of this bill will also halt the enormous academic progress of the children living in rural Alaska in areas of mathematics, reading, and writing, and in particular, it will halt the advancement of knowledge, skills and abilities of the children and their future contribution to the general well-being and economy of the region; and

WHEREAS, The rural school districts are working diligently and successfully to support and assist in this process.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Council of the Native Village of Kwinhagak and Council of City of Quinhagak respectfully implores and requests the Alaska State Legislature to reconsider its position and action towards the children of rural Alaska.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Council of the Native Village of Kwinhagak and Council of City of Quinhagak hereby opposes passage of Senate Bill No. 36 by the Alaska State Legislature.

PASSED 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 1998, by the Council with a duly constituted quorum of members present.

CERTIFICATION:

Marie A. Smith  
SECRETARY

Warlike Barilla  
PRESIDENT

Stella Cleveland  
SECRETARY

Lophie Evans  
MAYOR

APR 02 1998

ANNIE M. JOHN  
P.O. Box 9157  
Nikolai, Alaska 99691

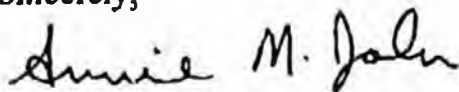
April 1, 1998

Senators & House of Representatives  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I would like to express my opposition to Senate Bill 36 because our children out here in the rural areas will feel the biggest impact if it passes. The bill will force our schools to close and then where will the equity be as I keep hearing that the specific purpose of SB36 is to solve the supposed inequity in school funding. Our children have been having to make do with what little funding they have and it would be shame to take away even more from them. The funding that we currently have does not even cover extras such as fine arts, music, and whatever else the urban kids take for granted. I've always believed that you all were elected to represent everyone in the State and I've been getting more disillusioned lately listening to all that's been happening down there in the legislature. What do we have to do to be treated as equals? Please take us into consideration when SB36 comes up for a vote. Please vote NO. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Annie M. John,  
Advisory School Board Member & Concerned Parent

P.S. Please don't play an April Fool's Day joke on our kids. They deserve better than that.

DISTRIBUTED BY  
REPRESENTATIVE IRENE NICHOLIA

ANN G. ALEXIA  
P.O. Box 9126  
Nikolai, Alaska 99691

April 1, 1998

Senators & House of Representatives  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I strongly oppose Senate Bill 36 because the Bill will cause even more division between rural and urban students and families. What kind of message are we sending our children through passage of bills such as these? What makes one class of citizens better than the other? I personally think that we, as Alaskan citizens, should be treated equally and I've yet to see that. Our children do not have the opportunities that urban children enjoy because of the already limited funds that we've been getting. We, and especially the children, deserve better than that. Our kids don't even have opportunities for music lessons and other fun things such as going to a museum, etc. I still am not convinced that anything needs to be fixed - instead I feel that battle lines are being drawn even tighter between urban and rural. Let's not fix something that's not broke. Please vote NO on Senate Bill 36. Thank you!

Sincerely,

*Ann G. Alexia*

Ann G. Alexia,  
Advisory School Board Member

DISTRIBUTED BY  
REPRESENTATIVE IRENE NICHOLIA

Native Village of Kwinhagak  
 Quinhagak L.R.A. Council  
 P.O. Box 149  
 Quinhagak, Alaska 99655  
 (907) 556-8165 Fax: 556-8166



City of Quinhagak  
 City Council  
 P.O. Box 90  
 Quinhagak, Alaska 99655  
 (907) 556-8615 Fax: 556-8640

## RESOLUTION 98- -

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING ALASKA SENATE BILL NO. 36 ENTITLED: AN ACT RELATING TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING PROGRAM; RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, TO THE TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS, TO SCHOOL DISTRICT LAYOFF PLANS, TO THE SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AGENCY, AND TO THE CHILD CARE GRANT PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE."**

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**WHEREAS, NVK's and City's role and responsibility includes advocating for the rights and interests of the people of the region in pursuing governmental services to address their basic human needs and improve their living conditions; and**

**WHEREAS, The most important resource of the region is its children and it is of critical importance to provide for the future and well-being of the children through education which is a basic human right available to all children no matter where they live or what their ethnic background is; and**

**WHEREAS, The State of Alaska formed and funded Rural Education Attendance Area School Districts to enable equitable and fair access to education of children living in rural remote villages throughout Alaska; and**

**WHEREAS, Education of the children through the Rural Education Attendance Area School Districts is vital not only to provide for the future of the children, but also to maintain the indigenous native culture, integrity, way of life, general well-being and livelihood of the people throughout rural Alaska; and**

**WHEREAS, The people of the region need and require the same level of basic education services afforded to all Alaskans; and**

**WHEREAS, The Alaska State Legislature intends to extinguish rural education funding through Senate Bill 36 which seeks to redistribute education funding dollars from rural school districts to urban schools, redefining school district boundaries, proposing employment taxes of 4% for districts without an economic base, and redefining most education processes as we know them; and**

**WHEREAS, The NVK and City lack the economic infrastructure and economic base to bear the burden of an employment tax to finance basic education and other basic human services; and**

**WHEREAS, Such a measure would cripple regions such as NVK and City, already experiencing an economic disaster from recent fishery industry failures; and**

**WHEREAS, Passage of this bill will have long and drastic effects on the operations of the rural school districts and the support and assistance in all areas of education provided for the children of the region; and**



*DISTRIBUTED BY*  
 REPRESENTATIVE IRENE NICHOLIA

WHEREAS, Passage of this bill will also halt the enormous academic progress of the children living in rural Alaska in areas of mathematics, reading, and writing, and in particular, it will halt the advancement of knowledge, skills and abilities of the children and their future contribution to the general well-being and economy of the region; and

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PASSED 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 1998, by the Council with a duly constituted quorum of members present.

CERTIFICATION:

Marie L. Smith  
SECRETARY

Wanilie Gavilla  
PRESIDENT

Stella Cleveland  
SECRETARY

Lephi Evans  
MAYOR

City of Shaktoolik

P. O. Box 10  
Shaktoolik, Alaska 99771**Resolution # 98-04**

A Resolution opposing Senate Bill 36.

**WHEREAS:** Education plays a vital role to the students in our Rural Communities;

**WHEREAS:** to now be successful in the Western World, we are encouraging our children to achieve the highest education possible in our Rural Communities;

**WHEREAS:** the Bering Straits School District is educating our students to become self-sufficient, productive citizens in a changing world recognized for their social, academic and marketable skills;

**WHEREAS:** with Proposed Bill 36, a lot of our Vital Programs would be lost;

**WHEREAS:** with Senate Bill 36 in place, Education for our Rural Students would be put in Turmoil leveling our Rural Students to the lowest Education possible, when Education is ranked at the Highest Priority Level.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** That Education is ranked as a very, very high priority for our students in the Rural Areas,

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That based on the critical criteria's listed above, we urge you to vote NO on Senate Bill 36; or uphold the Governor's Veto of said bill.

**PASSED AND APPROVED BY:** the City Council of the City of Shaktoolik this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 1998, a vote of 6 yes or      no. 1 ABSENT.

**SIGNED:** Edgar M. Jackson Sr.  
Edgar M. Jackson Sr., Mayor

**ATTEST:** Ellen E. Hunt  
Ellen E. Hunt, City Clerk

I am probably the rare bush teacher who is in favor of SB 36. I have taught out here for 16 years and have seen vast waste and total disregard for accountability in many incidents. I feel that the people of the villages I have been in, for the most part, do not support education. They do not get involved in their children's education. They do not see any need to volunteer at the school or take an active interest in making the school a better place. The adults in the villages have their priorities all wrong. Even now, with the hue and cry of SB 36, most parents are just concerned about losing basketball or the free breakfast. Why even our own educational association, a local branch of NEA, is putting out flyers that say "This means Basketball." to try and drum up support against SB 36.

APR 03 1998

I feel that for the state of Alaska to send a strong message to bush schools would be a very timely wake-up call. "Start showing involvement in education. Get your kids to school on time. Stop criticizing the school as a western institution that has little or nothing to do with village life. What can each parent do to make the school stronger?"

Everyone needs to start taking accountability for the problems in rural Alaska - and by everyone I mean the rural Alaskans, each person who lives in each village, native and non-native alike. Finger-pointing and excuses are a way of life. Let the schools do without a little and see if things improve - in my opinion they can't get worse. What could be worse than a seven year second grader only being in school 18 days out of a 42 day quarter - and all the absences unexcused?

I know I sound like a bitter, disillusioned teacher. Actually I am not. I am a sixteen year veteran of bush teaching who has dedicated her professional life to the Yupik children of western Alaska. I love the children I teach and am rewarded by the challenges of teaching. Until parents and all members of a village change their attitudes and start working productively to support education I feel changes in the funding are justified.

Jean Stockburger  
Teacher and parent of rural school children  
P. O. Box 32334  
Mt. Village, Alaska 99632

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APR 03 1998

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Jean Stockburger  
Teacher and parent of rural school children  
P. O. Box 32334  
Mt. Village, Alaska 99632

To: Representative Mark Hanley  
State Capitol, Room 507  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

APR 03 1998

From: Owen Lewis  
Box 43  
Kwigillingok, Alaska 99622

Re: Senate Bill 36

I was listening to SB 36 House Hess hearing two days ago here in school. The mannerism and mode of Hess committee was not of professional attitude. The committee has already made up their mind to pass the bill despite testimonies of opposition from many areas of Alaska including Anchorage and Fairbanks.

You should know that Anchorage's money (School District) problems cannot be solved by taking monies from other school districts. This is wrong approach. Legislators should look for ways to put more dollars to the education funding formula and then legislate. Education is just as important in the bush as it is in the urban. Taking monies from other districts and divert to other districts is not the answer. This opposite Robin Hood method will not work in our State it will only create divisiveness among us.

Mr. Hanley we need your help and influence in the House and stop this bill from becoming law for the sake of our children and for the sake of others in the bush.

Quyanal

**SB**

**36**

**SFIN**

**FILE**

# SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 5/6/97

FURTHER: REPORTED OUT OF  
SFC 3/9/98

DATE TURNED  
IN TO OFFICE: 3/10/98

Finance Committee considered

SENATE BILL NO. 36

"An Act relating to transportation of public school students; relating to school construction grants; relating to the public school foundation program and to local aid for education; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with \_\_\_\_\_ CS SB 36 ( 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>Rep. E. J. ...</i>	✓	<i>Bill ...</i>		X	
<i>...</i>	✓	<del>...</del>			
<i>...</i>	✓				
<i>...</i>	✓				
Co-Chair: _____		Co-Chair: <i>Peace</i>	✓		
Co-Chair: <i>...</i>		Co-Chair: _____			

**NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department                      Date      Zero      Fiscal

Labor	3/9/98	Ø	
Revenue	3/9/98	Ø	
Education	3/4/98		1,461.5

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

Department                      Date      Zero      Fiscal


APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

\*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA

BILL NO. SB 36

1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: 1/22/98

Department Affected: Education

Title: An act relating to transportation of public school

BRU: K-12

students: relating to school construction grants;

Component: Foundation Program

Sponsor: Senator Phillips

Requester: Senate Finance

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 141

**Expenditures/Revenues:**

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS	35,480.1	35,720.1	35,960.1	36,200.1	36,440.1	36,680.1
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>35,480.1</b>	<b>35,720.1</b>	<b>35,960.1</b>	<b>36,200.1</b>	<b>36,440.1</b>	<b>36,680.1</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>	33,089.2	33,089.2	33,089.2	33,089.2	33,089.2	33,089.2
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**FUND SOURCE**

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	2,390.9	2,630.9	2,870.9	3,110.9	3,350.9	3,590.9
1005 GF/Program Receipts	33,089.2	33,089.2	33,089.2	33,089.2	33,089.2	33,089.2
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35,480.1</b>	<b>35,720.1</b>	<b>35,960.1</b>	<b>36,200.1</b>	<b>36,440.1</b>	<b>36,680.1</b>

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current year (FY98) impact: \$ -0-

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

Refer to the attached spreadsheets for sectional analysis of fiscal impact. Section 5 is reflected as general fund program receipts. If the state is unsuccessful in collecting the \$33.1 million general fund program receipts, the foundation program unit value would be prorated to approximately \$59,000, or an additional \$33.1 million in general funds would have to be appropriated to cover full entitlements for FY99. The increased cost over FY99 to the foundation program to implement the proposed changes is approximately \$240,000 annually, based on a 1.5% estimated enrollment increase for FY99 through FY04. 1.5% is an average increase for enrollment based on the last five years.

Prepared by: Eddy Jeans, School Finance Manager

Phone: 465-8679

Division: Education Support Services

Date: January 22, 1998

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

Agency: Education Date: January 22, 1998

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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	Section 8	Section 4		Section 6 & 7	Section 6 (b)	Section 6, 9 & 12	Section 11	Section 13	
	Single Site w / ADM <90	Increases the mill tax levy from 4 mills to 4.5 mills	Impact Aid Ad' ment	Sets Minimum ADM to 10	Changes to Hold Harmless	Changes Units for Gifted	Changes Bilingual Units Factor	Supplemental Equalization State Share	Change in State Aid
1	ALASKA GATEWAY	-	-	-	-	(2,460)	73,185	511,586	582,311
2	ALEUTIAN EAST	(45,720)	(29,396)	-	-	28,060	-	196,894	149,838
3	ALEUTIAN REGION	117,730	-	-	-	6,150	-	30,374	36,524
4	ANCHORAGE	(6,978,612)	(571,713)	-	-	233,630	(2,238,090)	22,556,495	13,001,710
5	ANNETTE ISLAND	161,650	-	-	-	27,675	65,805	349,306	442,786
6	BERING STRAIT	-	-	-	-	111,930	162,360	1,524,081	1,798,371
7	BRISTOL BAY	(107,582)	(17,148)	-	-	(31,110)	-	95,868	(59,972)
8	CHATHAM	-	-	(95,940)	-	4,305	-	298,652	207,017
9	CHUGACH	-	-	(93,480)	104,310	2,460	-	140,258	153,548
10	COPPER RIVER	-	-	-	-	56,580	1,845	690,214	748,639
11	CORDOVA	166,530	(84,325)	(1,332)	-	(89,670)	-	253,450	78,123
12	CRAIG	179,950	(45,960)	(1,089)	-	21,960	-	234,226	209,137
13	DELTA/GREELY	-	-	-	-	(7,380)	(36,900)	753,688	709,408
14	DENALI	(57,470)	(1,419)	-	-	(7,930)	-	191,578	124,759
15	DILLINGHAM	220,200	(76,066)	(20,085)	-	(40,870)	122,000	270,651	255,630
16	FAIRBANKS	(2,222,392)	(470,579)	-	-	(392,230)	37,210	8,137,236	5,089,245
17	GALENA	(8,802)	(3,768)	-	-	112,850	132,370	113,515	346,165
18	HAINES	(84,354)	(1,312)	-	-	15,250	-	192,832	122,416
19	HOONAH	126,270	(12,363)	(5,012)	-	20,130	136,030	192,860	331,645
20	HYDABURG	107,970	(2,976)	(342)	-	8,540	98,210	91,498	194,930
21	IDITAROD	-	-	-	-	6,150	230,625	371,515	608,290
22	JUNEAU	(1,172,540)	(1,189)	-	-	(375,760)	122,610	2,294,893	868,014
23	KAKE	140,910	(8,679)	(7,232)	-	13,420	-	143,672	141,181
24	KASHUNAMUIT	159,820	-	-	-	21,525	267,525	220,617	509,667
25	KENAI	(1,968,930)	(5,219)	-	-	106,140	(519,720)	4,473,001	2,085,272
26	KETCHIKAN	(569,064)	(618)	-	-	148,230	(69,540)	1,206,420	715,428
27	KLAWOCK	153,110	(7,828)	(13,297)	-	4,880	-	155,482	139,237
28	KODIAK ISLAND	(448,597)	(76,701)	-	-	84,180	(129,930)	1,361,999	790,951
29	KUSPUK	-	-	-	-	34,440	91,635	423,187	549,262
30	LAKE & PENINSULA	(33,597)	(25,452)	-	-	17,080	-	344,126	302,157
31	LOWER KUSKOKWIM	-	-	(118,080)	-	127,920	(1,702,935)	3,012,008	1,318,913
32	LOWER YUKON	-	-	-	-	163,590	1,804,410	1,550,838	3,518,838
33	MAT-SU	(1,240,363)	(735)	-	-	69,540	298,900	7,064,571	6,191,913
34	NENANA	181,780	(8,371)	(293)	-	1,830	-	122,000	115,166
35	NOME	285,470	(78,268)	(1,950)	-	19,520	475,190	443,541	858,033
36	NORTH SLOPE	(11,686,868)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(11,686,868)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROJECTED FY99 FOUNDATION PROGRAM Senate Bill 36	Section 8  Single Site w / ADM <900	Section 4  Increases the mill tax levy from 4 mills to 4.5 mills	Impact Aid Adjustment	Section 6 & 7  Sets Minimum ADM to 10	Section 6 (b)  Changes to Hold Harmless	Section 6, 9 & 12  Changes Units for Gifted	Section 11  Changes Bilingual Units Factor	Section 13  Supplemental Equalization State Share	Change in, State Aid
37 NORTHWEST ARCTIC		(185,561)	(140,363)	-		108,580	966,850	1,176,119	1,925,625
38 PELICAN	49,410	(6,672)	-	-		3,050	-	13,035	9,413
39 PETERSBURG	211,660	(118,450)	(922)	-		6,100	-	364,769	251,497
40 PRIBILOF		-	-	-		13,530	186,345	176,172	376,047
41 SITKA		(312,529)	(10,560)	-		46,970	(4,270)	795,040	514,651
42 SKAGWAY	112,850	(255,652)	-	-		6,344	-	31,600	(217,708)
43 SOUTHEAST ISLAND		-	-	(183,885)	285,480	(615)	-	290,835	391,815
44 SOUTHWEST REGION		-	-	-		57,195	101,475	626,070	784,740
45 ST. MARY'S	140,910	(2,249)	(6,209)	-		6,100	132,370	105,885	235,897
46 TANANA	127,490	(2,911)	(3,705)	-		10,370	-	78,574	82,328
47 UNALASKA	198,250	(684,821)	(132)	-		792	5,550	87,556	(591,055)
48 VALDEZ	265,960	(2,413,049)	(19,783)	-		15,769	-	195,331	(2,221,732)
49 WRANGELL	196,420	(81,435)	(97)	-		15,860	-	253,164	187,492
50 YAKUTAT		(18,045)	(1,347)	-		6,710	-	87,628	74,946
51 YUKON FLATS		-	-	(131,610)		12,300	464,325	396,654	741,669
52 YUKON/KOYUKUK		-	-	-		25,830	429,885	496,354	952,069
53 YUPIIT		-	-	-		40,590	(12,300)	358,240	386,530
54 ALYESKA CORRESPONDENCE		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 MT EDGE CUMBE		-	-	-		20,740	27,450		48,190

Totals: 3,304,340 (31,031,101) (1,438,999) (622,995) 389,790 916,770 1,720,475 65,546,159 35,480,099

Column A: Section 8: Amends AS 14.17.041, adds a new table for single site school district units with less than 900 ADM.

Column B: Section 4: Amends AS 14.17.025(a) increases the mill rate from 4 to 4.5 and eliminates the 35% of Basic Need provision.

Column C: Impact Aid Adjustment - As local effort increases so does the deductible Impact Aid.

Column D: Section 6 & 7: Amends AS 14.17.031, setting minimum ADM for a funding community; Moves students to the highest funding community.

Column E: Section 6 (b): Amends AS 14.17.031 (b) changes the hold harmless provision from a decrease of 10% to 5% of K-12 units.

Column F: Section 6, 9 & 12: Adds AS 14.17.048 establishing instructional units for gifted and talented at 4.5% of ADM, weight factor of .025.

Column G: Section 11: Amends AS 14.17.47 amends the bilingual education units to one weight of .21 for all students.

Column H: Section: 13: Adds AS 14.17.065 Supplemental Equalization aid.

Column I: REAA State aid: amount for Supplemental Equalization aid.

Note 1: 7 funding communities affected by setting minimum ADM @ 10 are in the following districts:

Chatham	1
Chugach	1
Lower Kuskokwim	1
Southeast Island	3
Yukon Flats	1

Section 8 "Single Site" is not included in the changes in state aid because it is included in the departments FY99 budget request under additional district support.

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
PROJECTED FY98 FOUNDATION PROGRAM  
SB36

North Slope

Section 5

Basic Need	<u>\$19,781,413</u>
Required Local 4.5 mills	<u>52,870,565</u>
Public School Foundation Account	<u>\$33,089,152</u>

The Basic Need listed above includes all amendments listed in SB36.

The excess revenue that 4.5 mills generates over Basic Need is deposited in the Public School Foundation Account.

# FISCAL NOTE

No. 2  
 Bill Version: SB36  
 (S) Publish Date: 5/6/97

STATE OF ALASKA  
 1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: 1/31/97  
 Title: An act relating to transportation of public school students; relating to school construction grants;  
 Sponsor: Senator Phillips  
 Requester:

Department Affected: Education  
 BRU: K-12  
 Component: Foundation Program

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 141

**Expenditures/Revenues:**

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS	36,302.3	36,542.3	36,782.3	37,022.3	37,262.3	37,502.3
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>36,302.3</b>	<b>36,542.3</b>	<b>36,782.3</b>	<b>37,022.3</b>	<b>37,262.3</b>	<b>37,502.3</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>	34,519.0	34,519.0	34,519.0	34,519.0	34,519.0	34,519.0
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**FUND SOURCE**

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	1,783.3	2,023.3	2,263.3	2,503.3	2,743.3	2,983.3
1005 GF/Program Receipts	34,519.0	34,519.0	34,519.0	34,519.0	34,519.0	34,519.0
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36,302.3</b>	<b>36,542.3</b>	<b>36,782.3</b>	<b>37,022.3</b>	<b>37,262.3</b>	<b>37,502.3</b>

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current year (FY97) impact: \$ -0-

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

Refer to the attached spreadsheets for sectional analysis of fiscal impact. Section 5 is reflected as general fund program receipts. If the state is unsuccessful in collecting the \$34.5 million general fund program receipts, the foundation program unit value would be prorated to approximately \$58,300, or an additional \$34.5 million in general funds would have to be appropriated to cover full entitlements for FY98. The increased cost over FY98 to the foundation program to implement the proposed changes is approximately \$240,000 annually, based on a 1.5% estimated enrollment increase for FY99 through FY04. 1.5% is an average increase for enrollment based on the last four years.

Prepared by: Eddy Jeans, School Finance Manager Phone: 465-8679  
 Division: Education Support Services Date: February 7, 1997  
 Approved by Commissioner: Shirley J. Holloway, Ph. D., Commissioner  
 Agency: Education Date: February 7, 1997

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ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
 PROJECTED FY98 FOUNDATION PROGRAM  
 SB36

	Section 4	Impact Aid Adjustment	Section 6 & 7	Section 6b	Section 8	Section 11	Section 12	REAA State Aid	Section 13	Total FY98 Impact
ALASKA GATEWAY	0	0	(111,630)	0	0	99,430	8,540	(30)	486,952	483,262
ALEUTIAN REGION	0	0	0	0	61,610	0	3,050	530	18,522	83,712
ALEUTIANS EAST	(46,273)	(29,672)	0	0	0	0	28,670	0	179,985	132,710
ANCHORAGE	(6,647,533)	(582,190)	0	0	0	(1,781,810)	161,040	0	22,433,157	13,582,664
ANNETTE ISLANDS	0	0	0	0	161,040	0	12,200	1,415	391,608	566,263
BERING STRAIT	0	0	0	0	0	31,130	101,870	1,500	1,480,966	1,665,466
BRISTOL BAY	(93,757)	(17,213)	0	0	0	0	(18,300)	0	96,019	(33,250)
CHATHAM	0	0	0	0	0	0	21,350	175	297,499	319,024
CHUGACH	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,270	35	127,008	131,313
COPPER RIVER	0	0	(213,500)	227,530	0	0	52,460	540	580,929	647,959
CORDOVA	(83,091)	(1,857)	0	0	166,530	0	(78,080)	0	240,366	243,868
CRAIG	(39,335)	(1,612)	0	0	179,950	0	14,030	0	245,072	398,105
DELTA/GREELY	0	0	0	0	0	(40,870)	(4,270)	(370)	780,261	734,751
DENALI	(57,907)	(1,742)	0	0	0	0	(19,520)	0	182,784	103,615
DILLINGHAM	(67,595)	(25,031)	0	0	207,400	123,220	(56,730)	0	267,240	448,504
FAIRBANKS	(1,939,562)	(424,886)	0	0	0	(54,290)	(186,660)	0	8,224,320	5,618,922
GALENA	(8,854)	(7,422)	0	0	171,410	143,350	0	0	99,150	397,634
HAINES	(78,227)	(1,037)	0	0	0	0	31,720	0	190,051	142,507
HOONAH	(12,350)	(5,894)	0	0	128,100	42,090	20,130	0	195,990	368,066
HYDABURG	(2,949)	(236)	0	33,550	101,870	0	7,320	0	87,358	226,913
IDITAROD	0	0	0	0	0	216,550	(12,200)	1,675	372,689	578,714
JUNEAU	(1,046,654)	(1,114)	0	0	0	9,150	(530,700)	0	2,344,024	774,709
KAKE	(8,706)	(7,307)	0	0	140,910	0	13,420	0	133,000	271,317
KASHUNAMIUT	0	0	0	0	154,940	231,800	22,570	3,360	215,208	627,878
KENAI	(1,857,100)	(5,002)	0	0	0	(453,230)	38,430	0	4,482,385	2,205,483
KETCHIKAN	(545,022)	(603)	0	0	0	(42,700)	140,910	0	1,205,719	758,304
KLAWOCK	(7,997)	(15,596)	0	0	155,550	0	(1,830)	0	161,150	291,277
KODIAK	(438,873)	(86,921)	0	0	0	(78,080)	63,440	0	1,358,342	817,908
KUSPUK	0	0	0	0	0	0	14,640	120	413,085	427,845
LAKE AND PENINSULA	(34,067)	(24,989)	0	0	0	5,490	20,130	0	316,505	283,069
LOWER KUSKOKWIM	0	0	(127,490)	0	0	(4,388,950)	104,920	(36,160)	2,888,682	(1,558,998)
LOWER YUKON	0	0	0	0	0	1,966,640	156,770	17,390	1,495,166	3,635,966
MAT-SU	(1,169,929)	(742)	0	0	0	204,960	112,850	0	6,849,212	5,996,351
NEENANA	(8,265)	(284)	0	0	152,500	0	610	0	109,963	254,524
NOME	(76,855)	(2,036)	0	0	280,600	235,460	21,960	0	405,321	864,450

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
 PROJECTED FY98 FOUNDATION PROGRAM  
 SB36

	Section 4	Impact Aid Adjustment	Section 6 & 7	Section 6b	Section 8	Section 11	Section 12	REAA State Aid	Section 13	Total FY98 Impact
NORTH SLOPE	(11,951,605)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(11,951,605)
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	(131,536)	(27,526)	0	0	0	803,980	89,060	0	1,197,668	1,871,646
PELICAN	(7,784)	0	0	0	51,240	0	3,050	0	15,683	62,129
PETERSBURG	(112,623)	(938)	0	0	212,890	0	(7,320)	0	360,197	452,206
PRIBILOF	0	0	0	0	0	214,720	3,050	1,790	187,998	407,558
SITKA	(291,651)	(10,175)	0	0	0	0	61,000	0	832,045	591,219
SKAGWAY	(173,890)	0	0	0	112,850	0	9,760	0	30,987	(20,29)
SOUTHEAST	0	0	(111,020)	353,190	0	0	17,080	2,125	308,568	569,943
SOUTHWEST	0	0	0	0	0	126,270	48,190	1,435	555,484	731,379
ST. MARY'S	(2,224)	(6,131)	0	0	145,790	137,250	7,320	0	103,796	385,801
TANANA	(2,950)	(3,689)	0	0	117,120	0	8,540	0	70,406	189,427
UNALASKA	(652,624)	(130)	0	0	192,150	0	13,420	0	81,497	(365,687)
VALDEZ	(2,461,003)	(20,106)	0	0	267,180	25,010	14,030	0	197,065	(1,977,824)
WRANGELL	(66,869)	(99)	0	0	148,840	0	20,740	0	290,820	393,432
YAKUTAT	(16,051)	(1,671)	0	0	139,080	0	9,760	0	101,500	232,618
YUKON FLATS	0	0	(124,440)	0	0	541,680	(6,100)	3,355	372,751	787,246
YUKON/KOYUKUK	0	0	0	0	0	410,530	30,500	3,610	551,338	995,978
YUPIIT	0	0	0	0	0	(19,520)	40,260	170	341,334	362,244
STATE ACS	0	0	0	0	0	0	74,542	0	0	74,542
Mt. EDGE CUMBE	0	0	0	0	0	0	19,520	0	0	19,520
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>(\$30,141,711)</b>	<b>(\$1,373,851)</b>	<b>(\$688,080)</b>	<b>\$614,270</b>	<b>\$3,449,550</b>	<b>(\$1,240,740)</b>	<b>\$725,412</b>	<b>\$2,665</b>	<b>\$64,954,825</b>	<b>\$36,302,34</b>

Section 4 - Amends AS 14.17.025(a), requires all municipal school districts to contribute the equivalent of 4.5 mils capped at Basic Need.

Impact Aid Adjustment - As local effort increases so does the deductible Impact Aid.

Section 6 - Amends AS 14.17.031(a), sets the minimum size of a funding community at 10 ADM.

Section 6(b) - Amends AS 14.17.031(b), changes the hold harmless provision from a decrease of 10% to 5% of K-12 units.

Section 7 - Amends AS 14.17.041(a), eliminated instructional units for funding communities less than 10 ADM.

Section 8 - Amends AS 14.17.041, adds a new table for single site school district units with less than 900 ADM.

Section 11 - Amends AS 14.17.047, amends bilingual education units to one weight of .021 for all students.

Section 12 - adds AS 14.17.048, establishes new instructional units for gifted and talented at 4.5% of ADM, weight factor of .025.

REAA State Aid - Changes in adjusted units result in changes to REAA supplemental state aid.

Section 13 - Amends AS 14.17, adds a new section AS 14.17.065. Supplemental Equalization Aid

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
PROJECTED FY98 FOUNDATION PROGRAM  
SB36

North Slope

Section 5
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Basic Need	<u>\$20,066,560</u>
Required Local 4.5 mills	<u>54,585,520</u>
Public School Foundation Account	<u>\$34,518,960</u>

The Basic Need listed above includes all amendments listed in SB36.  
The excess revenue that 4.5 mills generates over Basic Need is deposited  
in the Public School Foundation Account.

# FISCAL NOTE

No. 1  
 Bill Version: SB 36  
 (S) Publish Date: 5/6/97

STATE OF ALASKA  
 1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: An Act relating to transportation of public school  
students; relating to school construction grants; etc.  
 Sponsor: Senator Phillipos  
 Requester: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Affected: Education  
 BRU: K-12  
 Component: Pupil Transportation

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_ 144

**Expenditures/Revenues:**

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS	\$1,697.3	\$1,748.2	\$1,800.6	\$1,854.6	\$1,910.3	\$1,967.6
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>\$1,697.3</b>	<b>\$1,748.2</b>	<b>\$1,800.6</b>	<b>\$1,854.6</b>	<b>\$1,910.3</b>	<b>\$1,967.6</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>	0.0					
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>	0.0					
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**FUND SOURCE**

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	\$1,697.3	\$1,748.2	\$1,800.6	\$1,854.6	\$1,910.3	\$1,967.6
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTTA						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,697.3</b>	<b>\$1,748.2</b>	<b>\$1,800.6</b>	<b>\$1,854.6</b>	<b>\$1,910.3</b>	<b>\$1,967.6</b>

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME	0					
PART-TIME	0					
TEMPORARY	0					

Estimate of current year (FY97) impact: \$ 0

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

The fiscal impact noted above is based on the assumption that Anchorage School District would be reimbursed for all costs associated with tr from school transportation, including contract administration costs of approximately \$204,000, but not including deducts from contracted transportation for hazardous or kindergarten routes. An inflation factor of 3% is assumed for FY99 through FY03.

Prepared by: Bill Wright, Pupil Transportation Administrator Phone: 465-8687  
 Division: Education Support Services Date: 1/30/97  
 Approved by Commissioner: Shirley J. Holloway, Ph. D.  
 Agency: Department of Education Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Senate Bill 25 Sec. 1**

Anchorage School District:

FY96 Total pupil transportation expenditures  
as stated in district audit special revenue fund: \$11,211,243

Less: Total contracted transportation  
(includes in lieu of agreements (\$24,081) and  
district deducts\* for hazard and kindergarten routes) (6,079,071)

\$5,132,172

Add: Vehicle depreciation (from statement of operations) 413,570

\$5,545,742

Less: Reimbursement under current method  
(66.83% of total costs as stated on the district's pupil  
transportation statement of operations for district-  
operated services, \$5,904,405) (3,945,917)

Difference Between Current and Proposed Method \$1,599,825

FY97 3% increase	\$1,647,320
FY98 3% increase	\$1,697,254
FY99 3% increase	\$1,748,172
FY00 3% increase	\$1,800,617
FY01 3% increase	\$1,854,636
FY02 3% increase	\$1,910,275
FY03 3% increase	\$1,967,583

Assumptions:

Includes all costs incurred by Anchorage School District for to/from school transportation except for contracted transportation expenses. If contract administration costs are not included, reimbursement would be reduced approximately \$204,000 based on June 1996 Altman, Rogers study.

\* Deducts are the district's share of hazard and kindergarten routes. Per A.S. 14.09.010(c), the cost of transporting students on hazard routes is shared equally between the district and the state. Routes which transport only kindergarten students are not eligible for state reimbursement per 4 AAC 27.010(c).

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA

BILL NO. CS,SB 36 (FIN)

1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

3/9/98

Revision Date: March 4, 1998

Department Affected: Education

Title: An Act relating to transportation of public school

BRU: K-12 Support

students; relating to school construction grants; etc.

Component: Pupil Transportation

Sponsor: Senator Phillips

Requester: Senate Finance

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 144

**Expenditures/Revenues:**

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS	\$1,461.5	\$1,505.3	\$1,550.5	\$1,597.0	\$1,644.9	\$1,694.3
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>\$1,461.5</b>	<b>\$1,505.3</b>	<b>\$1,550.5</b>	<b>\$1,597.0</b>	<b>\$1,644.9</b>	<b>\$1,694.3</b>

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0					
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CHANGE IN REVENUES	0.0					
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**FUND SOURCE**

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	\$1,461.5	\$1,505.3	\$1,550.5	\$1,597.0	\$1,644.9	\$1,694.3
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,461.5</b>	<b>\$1,505.3</b>	<b>\$1,550.5</b>	<b>\$1,597.0</b>	<b>\$1,644.9</b>	<b>\$1,694.3</b>

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME	0					
PART-TIME	0					
TEMPORARY	0					

Estimate of current year (FY98) impact: \$ 0

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

The fiscal impact noted above is based on the assumption that Anchorage School District would be reimbursed for 90% of all costs associated with district-operated school transportation, including contract administration costs of approximately \$204,000, and 100% of costs associated with contracted to/from school transportation, but not including deducts from contracted transportation for hazardous, or kindergarten routes. An inflation factor of 3% is assumed for FY00 through FY04.

Prepared by: Eddy Jeans, School Finance Director

Phone: 465-8687

Division: Education Support Services

Date: 3/4/98

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

Agency: Department of Education

Date: 3/4/98

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**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**Senate Bill 36, Sec. 1 (Amended to 90%)**

Anchorage S.D.---FY97 Statement of Operations

90% Reimbursement under proposed method \$5,350,999  
(90% of total costs as stated on the district's  
transportation statement of operations for  
district-operated services: \$5,945,555)

Less: Reimbursement under current method (3,973,414)  
(66.83% of total costs: \$5,945,555)

Difference Between Current and Proposed Method \$1,377,585

FY98 3% increase	\$1,418,913
FY99 3% increase	\$1,461,480
FY00 3% increase	\$1,505,324
FY01 3% increase	\$1,550,484
FY02 3% increase	\$1,596,999
FY03 3% increase	\$1,644,909
FY04 3% increase	\$1,694,256

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA

BILL NO. SB 36

1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: 22 JAN 1998

Department Affected: Education

Title: An Act relating to transportation of public school

BRU: K-12

students; relating to school construction grants; etc.

Component: Pupil Transportation

Sponsor: Senator Phillips

Requester: Senate Finance

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 144

**Expenditures/Revenues:**

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS	\$1,714.3	\$1,765.7	\$1,818.7	\$1,873.3	\$1,929.5	\$1,987.3
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>\$1,714.3</b>	<b>\$1,765.7</b>	<b>\$1,818.7</b>	<b>\$1,873.3</b>	<b>\$1,929.5</b>	<b>\$1,987.3</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>	0.0					
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>	0.0					
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**FUND SOURCE**

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	\$1,714.3	\$1,765.7	\$1,818.7	\$1,873.3	\$1,929.5	\$1,987.3
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,714.3</b>	<b>\$1,765.7</b>	<b>\$1,818.7</b>	<b>\$1,873.3</b>	<b>\$1,929.5</b>	<b>\$1,987.3</b>

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME	0					
PART-TIME	0					
TEMPORARY	0					

Estimate of current year (FY98) impact: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

The fiscal impact noted above is based on the assumption that Anchorage School District would be reimbursed for all costs associated with to/from school transportation, including contract administration costs of approximately \$204,000, but not including deducts from contracted transportation for hazardous or kindergarten routes. An inflation factor of 3% is assumed for FY00 through FY04.

Prepared by: Eddy Jeans, School Finance Director

Phone: 465-8687

Division: Education Support Services

Date: 1/22/98

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

Agency: Department of Education

Date: 1/22/98

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## Senate Bill 36. Sec. 1

Anchorage School District:

FY97 Total pupil transportation expenditures as stated in district audit special revenue fund:	\$11,780,683
Less: Total contracted transportation (includes in lieu of agreements (\$24,081) and district deducts* for hazard and kindergarten routes)	<u>(6,380,907)</u>
	\$5,399,776
Add: Vehicle depreciation (from statement of operations)	<u>189,530</u>
	\$5,589,306
Less: Reimbursement under current method (66.83% of total costs as stated on the district's pupil transportation statement of operations for district- operated services, \$5,945,555)	<u>(3,973,414)</u>
Difference Between Current and Proposed Method	<u>\$1,615,892</u>
FY98 3% increase	\$1,664,369
FY99 3% increase	\$1,714,300
FY00 3% increase	\$1,765,729
FY01 3% increase	\$1,818,701
FY02 3% increase	\$1,873,262
FY03 3% increase	\$1,929,460
FY04 2% increase	\$1,987,343

### Assumptions:

Includes all costs incurred by Anchorage School District for to/from school transportation except for contracted transportation expenses. If contract administration costs are not included, reimbursement would be reduced approximately \$204,000 based on June 1996 Altman, Rogers study.

\* Deducts are the district's share of hazard and kindergarten routes. Per A.S. 14.09.010(c), the cost of transporting students on hazard routes is shared equally between the district and the state. Routes which transport only kindergarten students are not eligible for state reimbursement per 4 AAC 27.010(c)

REPORTED BY  
3/9/98

Revision Date: March 9, 1998 Dept. Affected: Revenue  
 Title: Public School Financing BRU: Revenue Operations  
 Component: Income and Excise Audit  
 Sponsor: Senator Phillips  
 Reauthor: Senate Finance COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 113

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
PERSONAL SERVICES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TRAVEL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CONTRACTUAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SUPPLIES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EQUIPMENT	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES (GF)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1001 CBRF						
1048 University of AK receipts						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year cost \$ 0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

SB 36 has been amended to delete provisions related to an employment tax. The proposed bill, in it's current version, does not effect Department of Revenue tax programs or operating expenditures.

Prepared by: Brett Fried  
 Division: Income and Excise Audit  
 Approved by Commissioner: Wilson L. Condon  
 Agency: Revenue

Phone: (907) 465-3682  
 Date: March 9, 1998  
 Date: March 9, 1998

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Revision Date: March 6, 1998 Correction Dept. Affected: Revenue  
 Title: Public School Funding BRU: Revenue Operations  
 Component: Income and Excise Audit  
 Sponsor: Senator Phillips  
 Requestor: Senate Finance COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 113

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
PERSONAL SERVICES	0.0	0.0	106.0	325.0	325.0	325.0
TRAVEL	0.0	0.0	8.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
CONTRACTUAL	0.0	0.0	75.0	36.0	36.0	36.0
SUPPLIES	0.0	0.0	6.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
EQUIPMENT	0.0	0.0	6.5	6.0	0.0	0.0
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>201.5</b>	<b>401.0</b>	<b>395.0</b>	<b>395.0</b>
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
CHANGE IN REVENUES (GF)	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,186.5	1,186.5	1,186.5

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	0.0	0.0	201.5	401.0	395.0	395.0
1001 CBRF						
1048 University of AK receipts						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>201.5</b>	<b>401.0</b>	<b>395.0</b>	<b>395.0</b>

Estimate of any current year cost \$ 0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	3	7	7	7
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

(See attached analysis)

Prepared by: Brett Fried  
 Division: Income and Excise Audit  
 Approved by Commissioner: Wilson L. Condon  
 Agency: Revenue

Phone: (907) 465-3682  
 Date: March 6, 1998  
 Date: March 6, 1998

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