

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 2001-2002 86/2

10566 SENATE HEALTH EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES

By: Assemblymember Colver  
Action:

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 01-020**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING  
HB 101, RELATING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS.**

WHEREAS, under current law the authorization for all charter schools sets a duration of no more than five years and may not extend beyond July 1, 2005; and

WHEREAS, CSEB 101(HES) authorizes a ten-year term for a charter school contract and removes the sunset clause; and

WHEREAS, the current law allows for no more than 30 charter schools to operate in the state at any one time; and

WHEREAS, HB 101 amends the law to allow 60 charter schools to operate in the state; and

WHEREAS, the current law authorizes a charter school to be operated in an existing school district facility within the school district, but provides no funding; and

WHEREAS, CSHB101(HES) proposes a new section, A.S. 14.03.263, which provides for a one-time grant from the department equal to the amount of \$500 for each pupil enrolled in the charter school on October 1 of the year in which the school applies for the grant to be used for educational services; and

WHEREAS, currently there is no provision for capital funds for operating facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly encourages the Alaska State Legislature to support legislation, such as HB 101, which eliminates the sunset clause for charter schools and provides grant funding for charter schools based on pupil enrollment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly encourages the Alaska State Legislature to also provide capital funds for charter school facilities.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this - day of -, 2001.

TIMOTHY L. ANDERSON, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

SANDRA A. DILLON, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)

-Aurora files

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



*Interim:*

600 East Railroad Avenue  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
(907) 376-3370  
(907) 376-3157 Fax

*Session:*

State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-6600  
Fax (907) 465-3805

## SENATOR LYDA GREEN SENATE DISTRICT N

February 22, 2001

Barbara Gerard  
258 S Bailey  
Palmer, AK 99645

Dear Barbara,

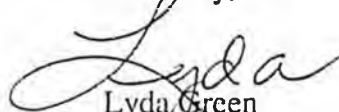
Thank you for your POM and email regarding the Academy Charter School and HB 101.

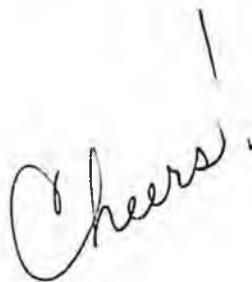
As you may know, I have always been supportive of charter schools and other creative methods of educating our children. I support Representative Dyson's legislation, and plan on voting for it barring any unwelcome changes. House Bill 101 does provide for a student population requirement of 100 students.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to call my office at 1-877-465-6601.

Thanks again for contacting me.

Sincerely,

  
Lyda Green  
Senator District N



LG/SH

[Senator\\_Lyda\\_Green@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Senator_Lyda_Green@legis.state.ak.us)

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# POM for Senator Green



From: Ms Barbara E Gerard  
258 S Bailey

VR: 27-016/u

Telephone: 745-3369

Palmer, AK 99645  
Email:

Constituent:

Registered Voter: V

Bill: HB 101 Title: CHARTER SCHOOLS  
Message:

As a very involved parent and administrator of Academy Charter School, I strongly support the passage and immediate implementation of HB 101. Charter schools have successfully demonstrated outstanding student achievement and opportunity for parent choice in education. This bill is receiving support from school boards, school administrators and assemblies across the state. Please speed its passage.

Entered in MAT on 2/20/01 POMID:99229

Distribution: 10

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Message 1 out of 4.

**Subject:** [Fwd: How about 125 population?]

**Date:** Thu, 22 Feb 2001 08:22:25 -0900

**From:** Barbara.Gerard@MSB.Mat-Su.k12.ak.us (Gerard, Barbara)

**To:** Senator\_Lyda\_Green@legis.state.ak.us

Dear Lyda,

I wanted you to be aware of the process and concerns as the HB 101 travels along it's journey. I hope you will be able to use your talents and skills in promoting and getting this Bill successfully passed. I hope that you will be able to make the last minute changes, lowering the student population to 125. Thank you so very much for all of your support and help!

Barbara

- Its 100 in  
HB 101

---

**Subject:** Re: How about 125 population?

**Date:** Wed, 21 Feb 2001 16:56:14 -0900

**From:** Wes Keller <Wes\_Keller@legis.state.ak.us>

**Organization:** Alaska State Legislature

**To:** "Gerard, Barbara" <Barbara.Gerard@MSB.Mat-Su.k12.ak.us>

I think that is a possibility--- but not right now. There are four charter schools between 120 and 135. If we drew the line at 125, the fiscal note would be approximately \$1,000,000 higher which is very significant at this point. If we can get enough momentum and support by the time we get Senate Finance or even the Senate Floor this will be possible. The best way would be to make sure Senator Green knows about it so she can be watchful for just the right moment. Our game plan is to get momentum now and raise it if we can later--- so keep smiling.  
wes

"Gerard, Barbara" wrote:

> Wes,

> Thanks again for the update. Is it possible to drop the student  
> population to 125? I am hoping.(smile) Barbara

>

> Wes Keller wrote:

>

> > Tomorrow (Thursday February 22, 3:00pm), the House HESS committee is  
> > again scheduled to hear HB 101. As was inadvertently demonstrated to  
> > you, it is very difficult to predict what will or will not happen.  
> > None-the-less, here is the most current information available for you to  
> > do with what you can. The biggest problem yesterday had to do with the  
> > astronomical projected cost of the bill as it was written. We had to  
> > make some adjustments so we can present a bill that will pass. The  
> > changes will be minor to some of you and disappointing to a few, but  
> > over-all, the changes are positive. Your input will be welcome and I  
> > encourage you to go to the LIO and ask questions if you want answers "on  
> > the record".

>

> > The following is as close as I can come to a "draft" of what will be  
> > introduced tomorrow. Please use the information with discretion  
> > because it will not be public information until the Committee adopts the  
> > "Committee Substitute for HB 101 for discussion" in a meeting. As you  
> > have seen, it is conceivable that it may not happen, especially in light  
> > of the heaviness of tomorrow's schedule, but I think we will at least  
> > get started. We now have a better bill because it is simpler and costs

> > less. Feel free to ask me specific questions but don't be too  
> > surprised if my response is slow due to innumerable distractions.  
> >  
> > Change Summary:  
> > Section 2 (clarification of the obvious) Charter schools (as public  
> > schools), are subject to same testing requirements as other public  
> > schools.  
> > Section 4 grants for Native languages and history are gone..  
> > Section 6 qualifiers relating to "facilities" and "correspondence  
> > school" are gone and the ADM requirement for being counted as a separate  
> > school is dropped to 150 instead of 100 from 200.  
> >  
> > HOUSE BILL NO. 101  
> > "An Act relating to charter schools; and providing for an effective  
> > date."  
> > BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:  
> > \* Section 1 No change.  
> > \* Sec. 2. AS 14.03.255(a) is amended to read:  
> > (a) A charter school operates as a school in the local  
> > school district except that  
> > the charter school (1) is exempt from the local school district's  
> > textbook, program,  
> > curriculum, and scheduling requirements; (2) is exempt from AS  
> > 14.14.130(c); the  
> > principal of the charter school shall be selected by the academic  
> > policy committee and  
> > shall select, appoint, or otherwise supervise employees of the  
> > charter school; [AND]  
> > (3) operates under the charter school's annual program budget as  
> > set out in the contract  
> > between the local school board and the charter school under (c)  
> > of this section. A  
> > local school board may exempt a charter school from other local  
> > school district  
> > requirements if the exemption is set out in the contract. A  
> > charter school is subject  
> > to secondary school competency testing as provided in AS 14.03.075 and  
> > other competency  
> > tests required by the department.  
> > \* Sec. 3. no change  
> > \* Sec. 4. AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:  
> > Sec. 14.03.263. Charter school grant program.  
> > (a) A charter school may  
> > receive a one-time grant from the department equal to the amount  
> > of \$500 for each  
> > pupil enrolled in the charter school on October 1 of the year in  
> > which the school  
> > applies for the grant. The charter school shall use a grant  
> > received under this  
> > subsection to provide educational services. In this subsection,  
> > "educational services"  
> > includes curriculum development, program development, and special  
> > education  
> > services.  
> > (b) The department shall establish by regulation procedures for  
> > application for  
> > and expenditure of grant funds under (a) or (b) of this section.  
> > \* Sec. 5. no change  
> > \* Sec. 6. AS 14.17.905 is amended by adding a new subsection to  
> > read:  
> > (b) Notwithstanding (a)(3) of this section, charter school shall be  
> > counted as a  
> > separate school if the charter school has an ADM of at least 150

[Fwd: How about 125 population?]

> > *students.*  
> > \* *Sec. 7. no change.*  
> > \* *Sec. 8. no change.*

Aurora files

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



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*Session:*  
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(907) 465-6600  
Fax (907) 465-3805

## SENATOR LYDA GREEN SENATE DISTRICT N

February 22, 2001

Verona Berg  
115 W. Eagle Ave.  
Palmer, AK 99645

Dear Verona,

Thank you for your POM regarding the Academy Charter School.

As you may know, I have always been supportive of charter schools and other creative methods of educating our children. I will be more than willing to help in any way that I can.

New legislation has been introduced this year by Representative Dyson. House Bill 101, Representative Dyson's legislation, provides for a student population requirement of 100 students. I support this legislation in its current form. Attached is a copy of this legislation for you to review.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to call my office at 1-877-465-6601.

Thanks again for contacting me.

Sincerely,

Lyda Green  
Senator District N

LG/SH

[Senator\\_Lyda\\_Green@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Senator_Lyda_Green@legis.state.ak.us)

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# POM for Senator Green



From: Ms Verona M Berg  
115 W Eagle Ave

VR: 27-023/U

Telephone: 746-1955

Palmer, AK 99645  
Email:

Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Bill: HB 101 Title: CHARTER SCHOOLS  
Message:

We have an awesome charter school that our students and staff thrive at and we need your help to benefit our school and others. Please lower the student population requirement to 100 students and remove the sunset clause on charter schools. Thank you for all of your work.

Entered in MAT on 2/20/01 POMID:99231

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Message 2 out of 4.

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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*Session:*

State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-6600  
Fax (907) 465-3805

## SENATOR LYDA GREEN SENATE DISTRICT N

February 26, 2001

Colleen Cottle  
PO Box 870341  
Wasilla, AK 99687-0341

Dear Colleen,

Thank you for your POM regarding charter schools

As you may know, I have always been supportive of charter schools and other creative methods of educating our children. I will be more than willing to help in any way that I can.

New legislation has been introduced this year by Representative Dyson. I support House Bill 101 in its current form. Attached is a copy of this legislation for you to review.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to call my office at 1-877-465-6601.

Thanks again for contacting me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lyda".

Lyda Green  
Senator District N

LG/SH

[Senator\\_Lyda\\_Green@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Senator_Lyda_Green@legis.state.ak.us)

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# POM for Senator Green



From: Mrs Colleen G Cottle  
PO Box 870341

VR: 26-037/N

Telephone: 376-5711

Wasilla, AK 99687

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Email:

Bill: HB 101 Title: CHARTER SCHOOLS

Message:

I'm in favor of charter schools. I think they are much better than most private schools because they are under the auspices of public schools and all teachers must be certified.

Entered in MAT on 2/21/01 POMID:99247 Stored

Distribution: 47

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Message 3 out of 3.

(Response Dbd.)

From: John M. Sanger  
2410 E. 20th Ave  
Anchorage, AK 99508

To: Senate/Hess  
House  
House & Senate Finance

2/24/01

As a concerned parent of Village Charter School, I urge all legislators to truly look at HB101 (Charter Schools)

To truly help Charter Schools we would need the student number enrolled to be 100 students. To require 150-200 students would make us unable to find facilities to house us. Also the 2005 sunset for Charter Schools is unreasonable. We will lose everything we have worked so hard for. The quality of education has been greatly increased because of the variety that Charter Schools offer. As a parent we would choose to home school over going to a traditional public school.

Please look at the good Charter Schools have brought to the quality of education and variety that would otherwise be lost.

John M. Sanger

2/23/01

To: House, Senate Hess, House and Senate Finance  
Fr: Michelle Dversie, parent/social worker  
907-569-0650

I urge you to take action  
on behalf of charter school  
students.

These students <sup>deserve the benefit</sup> ~~although they~~  
that equal funding would provide.  
In addition, these schools  
should be afforded a separate  
system of oversight which takes  
into consideration their special  
needs.

The current arrangement, where  
small schools must behave as the  
large public schools with much  
smaller per-child budgets, is  
unreasonable and indefensible.

Please join me in my commitment  
to provide my child with a  
quality education.

Thank you for your consideration  
and action.

M Dversie  
1651 Diamond Drive  
Anch, AK 99507

House + SENAT HESS FINANCE

Feb 24

Dear Sirs + Madems

My CHILD is currently attending a charter school in Anchorage. I also hold a position on the schools APC + am currently working for the school in a short time position as a class coordinator. I also volenter up to 15 hr. each mo. in my childs class room + helping in the office.

In the past 2 mo. working at the school I have really seen how our low funding effects our office and most importantly how it effects our classrooms. Our office is in the corner of our 4,5,6, class room. As quiet as we try to be in the office we are still a distraction to the kids.

Funding should ~~not~~ be based on the number of students enroled, but the same for each child no matter what school they go to. If a number must be put on it, it must be as low as 100 because it is so hard to find housing for charter schools that meet the A&D requirements. that are affordable.

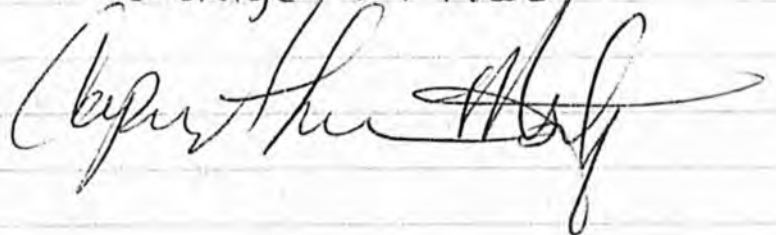
Please Allow charter schools to survive + prosper in our state

Yours Truly

Caprice A Larimer-Misty

5340 E 42nd Ave

Anchorage, AK 99508



2-24-2001

House & Senate HESS -  
House & Senate Finance -  
Dear Sirs & Madams -

My name is Toni Brewster. I am a classroom teacher in a small charter school. We have 108 students. Due to the current & proposed laws, our funding is minimal and barely covered the most basic need. All of our furnishings (desks, storage) are items that have been "junked" by other schools. The majority of texts and reference books fit that same category. All teachers, students and parents are stretched to the limit to scrounge and find creative ways to make ends meet.

Please realize that some charter schools are created to serve 100-125 students. These students & families deserve the benefit of increased funding. Please lower the bottom end of your funding formula to include schools serving as few as 100 students.

Also, I implore you to lift the "Sunset Law." Allow the needs of the community to control whether or not a school continues. If the Charter School is not filling needs, the enrollment drop will determine whether the school survives or fold.

Thank you for your time & attention.

Toni Brewster      tonibrewster@gci.net  
201 Heintzleman Dr      907-274-0149  
Anchorage, AK 99503

From: Kristin Sangar  
2410 E. 28<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Anchorage, AK  
99508

To: House  
Senateless  
House + Senate Finance

2/24/01

I'm writing as a concerned parent responding to HB101 (Charter Schools). I am so pleased to see that charters are getting some necessary attention. As a concerned parent and administrator for Village Charter School I can tell you our needs are great.

Facilities are our greatest challenge with our funding. With the allotment we are currently given we are forced to negotiate with landlords prices and rates that are very unfavorable for them. This greatly weakens our ability to find good and safe facilities and to carry long term leases.

In order to keep us from failing, as Wadon Pond did, we have to make tremendous compromises. Our school needs funding for Administrators and office space that we currently don't have. Our office is in a shared classroom space with no privacy sector for the classroom or the office. If you can imagine 20 to 30 students being taught in your office space you could imagine how this would be. As a parent and volunteer, much of my Administrative duties that truly require a fulltime professional.

Please help us overcome these problems. We are truly increasing the quality of education in the community.

Feb 24, 2001

HESS: Finance  
Senate/ House

RE: Charter School funding

Dear HESS: Finance, House and Senate Committee

As a parent at the "Village Charter School" in Anchorage, AK, I wanted to share some of my feelings and joys of having my son attend such a unique and wonderful program.

I would have been happy with just one language for Christian who is 10 yrs old, but having 2 is a blessing. This was very important factor when I looked around for an optional program. He is learning Spanish as well as Norwegian and will have this for five years, through 8th grade. A big jump on college requirements!

Village Charter School is also very strong in reading, writing and math. My son has really grown this year and actually enjoys going <sup>to</sup> school. The multi-age classroom has not been a challenge but <sup>rather</sup> an advantage. The class works together and students support each other. (grades 4-6)

Music is also strong throughout the day, whether in regular class or during language time. This has been proven to improve math and science skills.

As you can see - I'm very excited about my son's new school and I am asking that you

From: Michele Todd  
909 E. 12th Ave. #3  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 277-4794

Feb. 24, 2001

To: House  
Senate News  
House and Senate Finance

As a parent of a kindergarten student currently enrolled at Village Charter School in Anchorage, AK, I am concerned that his school is not being given "the financial credit" for his enrollment that a regular Anchorage School District school would be given should he enroll there. Why is this? His teachers are all certified with the school district and I pay the same taxes, no matter what school he attends.

There is a bill in legislation that could help my sons school funding. The bill is currently written to allocate money based on 150 students from the original bill that states 200 student minimum enrolled. In order to benefit the our school the bill would have to be changed to "100" students minimum. Where did the 150 student amount come from? Why isn't allocation given on a per student basis, all regular Anchorage district school receive monies in this manner. It seems very unfair that Charter schools are not extended

# CORRECTION

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT(S)  
HAVE BEEN REFILMED TO  
ASSURE LEGIBILITY OR PAGINATION



Central Microfilm Services  
Department of Education & Early Development  
State of Alaska

Feb 24, 2001

MESS: Finance  
Senate/House

RE: Chorton School Funding

Dear MESS: Finance, House and Senate Committee

As a parent at the Village Chorton School in Anchorage, AK, I wanted to share some of my feelings and joys of having my son attend with a unique and wonderful program.

I would have been happy with just one language for children who are 10 yrs old, but having 2 is a blessing. This was very important factors when I looked around for an optional program. He is learning Spanish, as well as

French and will have this for five years, through 8th grade. A big jump in college require-ments!

Village Chorton School is also very strong on reading, writing and math. My son has really grown this year and actually enjoys going to school. The multi-age classroom has not been a challenge but an advantage. The class works together and students support each other. (grades 4-6)

I made it also strong throughout the day, whether in regular class or during language time. This has been proven to improve math and science skills. As you can see - I'm very excited about my son's new school and I am asking that you

Sincerely,  
Dyana R. Altam  
P.O. Box 190436  
Anchorage, AK 99519-0436

Thank you for taking out some time  
in reading this letter

Please consider on changing the limit on  
per better disregard of limit of funding  
for Charter Schools having small numbers  
enrolled. Our school has approx. 108 this  
year. Please do not squeeze us out of any  
budgetary money. We give a quality school  
just waiting to remain small for the good  
of the children. Also, please continue Alaska  
Charter Schools beyond the year 2005. There  
are alot of families waiting the type of  
program for their children. Alaska future.

From: Michelle Dodd  
909 E. 12th Ave. #3  
Anchorage AK 99501  
(907) 274-4794

Feb. 24, 2001

To: House  
Senate News  
House and Senate Finance

As a parent of a kindergarten student currently enrolled at Village Charter's school in Anchorage AK, I am concerned that his school is not being given "the financial credit" for his enrollment that a regular Anchorage School District school would be given should he enroll there. Why is this? His teachers are all certified with the school district and I pay the same taxes, no matter what school he attends.

There is a bill in legislation that could help my sons school funding. The bill is currently written to allocate money based on 150 students from the original bill that states 200 student minimum enrolled. In order to benefit the our school the bill would have to be changed to "100" students minimum. Where did the 150 student amount come from? Why isn't allocation given on a per student basis, all regular Anchorage district school receive monies in this manner. It seems very unfair that Charter schools are not extended

the same type of allocation procedure.

I appreciate your time and hope to secure your support in changing the minimum student amount on the bill from 200 to "100".

Please inform your fellow legislators

Thank you,

Michael Jedd

Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>

Kimberly Singleton  
PO Box 190208  
Anchorage AK 99509

House Finance Committee  
Members  
State of Alaska

Dear Sirs/Madam:

I Strongly urge the Support  
of HB 101 & SB 89. I Am An  
Alaskan Native With my Children  
in A Charter School. I Cannot  
Praise our School or our teachers  
enough. The passage of these  
Proposals will ensure that  
our School does not suffer the  
fate of Walden pond Charter  
We in our family are open  
to Questions Regarding our

School and experiences  
Regarding public - vs - Charter  
School.

I can be reached at  
kdsingleton@admmail.com  
Should you be interested.

Thank you.

Kimberly, Rusty,  
Kristan & Rawn  
Singleton

2-24-01

Dear House and Senate <sup>Hess</sup> Finance Committee Members,

I am writing to encourage the passage of HB 101 and its accompanying Senate Bill. I was encouraged to see that the original bill lowered the minimum number of students to 100. I am writing to encourage you to amend the bill to lower the minimum enrollment to 100 students for higher funding. This is crucial to the operation of our school, which is small by design.

I would also like to encourage your consideration of eliminating a sunset date. As a parent, I would like to be able to assure that my child could finish school in the same school he started.

Finally, I would like the assurance that local school district authority be limited to essential areas, eliminating micro-management by local districts.

Sincerely,

Kathy Sue Justus  
Village Charter School

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



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(907) 465-6600  
Fax (907) 465-3805

## SENATOR LYDA GREEN SENATE DISTRICT N

March 29, 2001

Charles and Korin Homestead  
11240 Latta Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99516

Dear Charles and Korin,

Thank you for your letter regarding support for charter schools.

I have always been supportive of charter schools and other creative methods of educating our children. I will be more than willing to help in any way that I can.

New legislation has been introduced this year by Representative Dyson. I support House Bill 101 in its current form. Attached is a copy of this legislation for you to review.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to call my office at 1-877-465-6601.

Thanks again for contacting me.

Sincerely,

Lyda Green  
Senator District N

LG/SH

[Senator\\_Lyda\\_Green@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Senator_Lyda_Green@legis.state.ak.us)

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March 19, 2001

Senator Lyda Green  
Alaska State Capital, Room #125  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green,

This letter is to encourage you to support legislation in favor of charter schools. I am sure that you are aware of some of the recent negative publicity with respect to charter schools. I believe that these recent criticisms are based on a lack of understanding of this innovative approach to training a young mind to excel. Indeed, educational efforts should be comprised of a broad spectrum of opportunities. These opportunities are brought forward by parents and supported by certified teachers to formulate an education that is not mainstream. The results have been positive for our family.

We have three children in Family Partnership Charter School (5<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> grades). We as parents have taken the responsibility to "parent direct" this custom education. We are an integral part of our children's education. This, at times, can be challenging. We feel that it is worth it. The charter school allows our children to excel in their strengths and interests. The individual attention helps to identify weaknesses that could go undetected in a traditional setting. Proactive curriculum to address these weaknesses can stave off future educational frustrations.

Our three years with the charter school has been a positive experience for all three of our children. It is so rewarding to be a part of the excitement and enthusiasm our children have when they learn to take responsibility for their educational choices with anticipation of career choices which in turn become an asset to the community in which they live.

Charter schools are a new concept in contrast to our traditional school systems. These schools are challenging some established ideals of primary schooling but the results speak for themselves. We as parents think these schools are worth the effort and would appreciate you representing our public educational system in a positive manner by supporting charter schools.

If you have any detail questions for our family, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

*Charles & Korin Homestead*

Charles & Korin Homestead  
11240 Latta Cir.  
Anchorage, AK 99516  
349-9339  
khomestead@alaskalife.net

Palmer, Alaska 99645

facsimile transmittal

To: Mat-Su Legislators Fax: 465-3805, 465-4928, 465-3818, 465-3265, 465-4822

Senators Green and Halford

Representatives Ogan, Kohring, and Masek

From: Julena Felix Date: Administrative Assistant

Re: Pages:

CC:

Urgent

Please Comment

Please Reply

Please Recycle

I am forwarding the attached resolutions that the Matanuska-Susitna School Board passed at the meeting of April 4, 2001.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call at 746-9272 or speak with any of our School Board members at the legislative fly-in next week.

Thank you and have a nice session.

CONFIDENTIAL

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH INFORMATION MEMORANDUM** IM No. 01-087

**SUBJECT:** Supporting HB 101; SB 1; and SB 133 Relating to Schools.

**AGENDA OF:** March 27, 2001

**ASSEMBLY ACTION:**

[Empty box for Assembly Action]

**MANAGER RECOMMENDATION:** Present for assembly consideration.

**APPROVED BY BOROUGH MANAGER:** *[Signature]*

Route To:	Department/Individual	Initials	Remarks
	Originator		
	Assessor		
	Public Works Director		
	Planning Director		
	Community Development		
	Public Safety Director		
	Finance Director		
	Borough Attorney	<i>[Signature]</i>	
	Borough Clerk	<i>[Signature]</i>	

**ATTACHMENT(S):** Resolution Serial No. 01-020  
 Resolution Serial No. 01-021  
 Resolution Serial No. 01-022  
 Fiscal Note: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** The three resolutions are being presented for assembly consideration at the request of Assemblymember Colver.

The school superintendent brought the topic of these proposed resolutions to the school board on March 21, 2001, and she advised that the school board had no disagreements with HB 101 or SB 133. They also agree in concept to SB 1, however, would like to see a provision for inflation-proofing and the per student allocation proposed at a higher level.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEMO NO. 01-088**

**A RESOLUTION OF MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT IN SUPPORT  
OF THE GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE.**

---

**WHEREAS**, Governor Tony Knowles organized a bipartisan, diverse task force to study adequacy in public education and to provide a recommendation for a five-year funding plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Education Funding Task Force findings indicate that, "a general loss of purchasing power has resulted in schools not being able to maintain an appropriate level of education services," which includes the inability of school districts to update instructional materials, align curriculum and lesson plans, maintain facilities, provide direct student interventions, meet the needs of diverse student populations, or provide competitive salaries and benefits for teachers; and

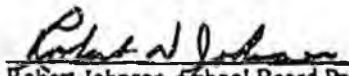
**WHEREAS**, the Education Funding Task Force concluded that as a result of these inadequacies, many students have not had the opportunity to meet higher state academic standards; and

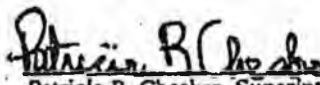
**WHEREAS**, the Education Funding Task Force recommendations include the following: (1) an increase of \$414 in per pupil funding through the foundation program over a five-year period to increase the purchasing power of districts; (2) funding for programs which reward exemplary schools and provide assistance for low performing schools; (3) funding to attract and retain new teachers; (4) funding to inflation proof the foundation program; and (5) reduce the funding floor pending results of the state's new district cost factor study.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School Board wholly supports the efforts, findings and recommendations of the Education Funding Task Force.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School Board encourages the Alaska State Legislature to support the finding and recommendations of the Education Funding Task Force in a direct effort to ensure adequacy in education in the state's public schools.

**ADOPTED** by Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District this 4th day of April, 2001.

  
Robert Johnson, School Board President

  
Patricia R. Chesbro, Superintendent

**ATTEST:**

  
Juliana Felix, Administrative Assistant

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEMO NO. 01-085**

**A RESOLUTION OF MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT IN SUPPORT OF INCREASING THE BASE STUDENT ALLOCATION USED IN THE FORMULA FOR STATE FUNDING OF PUBLIC EDUCATION.**

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District is striving to provide each student a standards based education in preparation for meeting and exceeding the state assessments mandated under the Quality Schools Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District is committed to offering children and families the public educational choices and opportunities they require, including summer learning opportunities, expansion of academic intervention programs, online programs, and vocational accelerated programs; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District is committed to achieving the above goals by maintaining class size and building new schools in accordance with the established district formula; and

WHEREAS, the current structure of the funding formula encourages the building of new facilities and smaller classes; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District is building new schools, but because of rising assessed valuation and the lack of education funding, the district faces a projected five million dollar budget deficit; and

WHEREAS, the funding formula does not address the associated costs with opening new schools; and

WHEREAS, it is not likely the current legislature will make significant changes to the funding formula, an increase in per pupil allocation will allow our District to offset the financial impact of assessed valuations; and

WHEREAS, it is our belief that the rising mill rates to compensate for the lack of funding from the foundation formula is unhealthy for our growing community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Matanuska-Susitna School Board is in support of an increase to the base student allocation and encourages the Alaska State Legislature to pass legislation that increases the current per student allocation of \$3,940; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Matanuska-Susitna School Board encourages the Legislature to make education funding a priority.

ADOPTED by Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2001.

Robert N. Johnson  
Robert Johnson, President

Patricia R. Chesbro  
Patricia R. Chesbro, Superintendent

ATTEST:

Jilena Felix  
Jilena Felix, Administrative Assistant

By: Assemblymember Colver  
Action:

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 01-021**

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 1 (SB 1) RELATING TO THE BASE STUDENT ALLOCATION USED IN THE FORMULA FOR STATE FUNDING OF PUBLIC EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough is one of the fastest growing communities in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough is facing a serious shortfall in education funding because of rising assessed valuation; and

WHEREAS, as a result of lack of funding, class sizes are increasing, programs are being cut, and student fees are increasing; and

WHEREAS, the funding formula does not address the associated costs with opening new schools; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough is facing rising mill rates to compensate for the lack of funding from the foundation formula.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IS RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough encourages the Alaska State Legislature to pass legislation that increases the base student allocation from \$3,940 per student.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this - day of -, 2001.

APR-11-01 WED 10:29

11K-26-01 WED 08:46 AM MAT-SU BOROUGH

FAX NO. 807 745 8845

P. 12

P. 06

TIMOTHY L. ANDERSON, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

SANDRA A. DILLON, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



*Interim:*

600 East Railroad Avenue  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
(907) 376-3370  
(907) 376-3157 Fax

*Session:*

State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-6600  
Fax (907) 465-3805

## SENATOR LYDA GREEN SENATE DISTRICT N

April 4, 2001

Shawn Knudeson  
1310 West 31<sup>st</sup> Ave  
Anchorage, AK 99503-3623

Dear Shawn,

Thank you for your letter supporting charter schools.

I have always been supportive of charter schools and other creative methods of educating our children. I will be more than willing to help in any way possible.

New legislation has been introduced this year by Representative Dyson. House Bill 101 is being heard in the House Finance Committee. The Senate's companion bill, Senate Bill 89 has been referred to the Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee. However, HB 101 is the vehicle legislation and the Senate HESS Committee will address this issue when HB 101 comes to the Senate.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to call my office at 1-877-465-6601.

Thanks again for contacting me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lyda Green".

Lyda Green  
Senator District N

LG/SH

[Senator\\_Lyda\\_Green@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Senator_Lyda_Green@legis.state.ak.us)

Alexander Creek • Big Lake • Butte • Caswell • Chickaloon • Chulitna • Finger Lake • Goose Bay • Hatcher Pass • Houston  
Knik • Kashwitna • Lake Louise • Lazy Mountain • Montana Creek • Nancy Lake • Nelchina • Palmer • Petersburg • Point Mackenzie  
Sheep Mountain • Skwentna • Sunshine • Sutton • Talkeetna • Trail Lakes • Trapper Creek • Wasilla • Willow

**Subject:** SB89, Charter Schools

**Date:** Tue, 03 Apr 2001 13:42:03 -0800

**From:** Shawn Knudeson <Shawnknu@mac.com>

**To:** <Senator\_Dave\_Donley@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator\_Pete\_Kelly@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator\_Jerry\_Ward@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator\_Jerry\_Ward@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator\_Gary\_Wilken@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator\_Lyda\_Green@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator\_Loren\_Leman@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator\_Alán\_Austerman@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator\_Donny\_Olson@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator\_Lyman\_Hoffman@legis.state.ak.us>

Shawn Knudeson

1310 W. 31st Ave., Anchorage, AK 99503-3623

907-274-0169 FAX 689-7795 VR: 15-313/67

shawnknu@mac.com

Hello. My name is Shawn Knudeson. I am writing regarding SB89, Charter Schools. I currently have two children enrolled in the Family Partnership Charter School, and we love the freedom of education that it affords my family. I feel strongly that everyone should have access to this degree of freedom in educating their children. I believe that my children are well-served by the Charter School Program, and I strongly urge you to support this legislation. I thank you for the support that you may already have shown for this important work!

Please continue to support charter schools as an educational option in Alaska.

Thank you for the good work you are doing. We appreciate all you do!

Blessings,  
Shawn Knudeson

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



*Interim:*

600 East Railroad Avenue  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
(907) 376-3370  
(907) 376-3157 Fax

*Session:*

State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-6600  
Fax (907) 465-3805

## SENATOR LYDA GREEN SENATE DISTRICT N

April 4, 2001

Jim Dowd  
2725 Telequana Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99517

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your letter supporting charter schools.

I have always been supportive of charter schools and other creative methods of educating our children. I will be more than willing to help in any way possible.

New legislation has been introduced this year by Representative Dyson. House Bill 101 is being heard in the House Finance Committee. The Senate's companion bill, Senate Bill 89 has been referred to the Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee. However, HB 101 is the vehicle legislation and the Senate HESS Committee will address this issue when HB 101 comes to the Senate.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to call my office at 1-877-465-6601.

Thanks again for contacting me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lyda Green".

Lyda Green  
Senator District N

LG/SH

[Senator\\_Lyda\\_Green@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Senator_Lyda_Green@legis.state.ak.us)

Alexander Creek • Big Lake • Butte • Caswell • Chickaloon • Chulitna • Finger Lake • Goose Bay • Hatcher Pass • Houston  
Knik • Kashwitna • Lake Louise • Lazy Mountain • Montana Creek • Nancy Lake • Nelchina • Palmer • Petersville • Point Mackenzie  
Sheep Mountain • Skwentna • Sunshine • Sutton • Talkeetna • Trail Lakes • Trapper Creek • Wasilla • Willow

March 28, 2001

Senator Lyda Green  
Alaska State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green,

It is my understanding that there are two bills that are critical to the future of charter schools, stalling in the Finance committees. I would like to express my concern for these bills being passed this session. There is a continual stream of rhetoric about how important education is to our future. I hope you and others in the legislature consider how important charter schools are to the good education of many Alaskans. Please give these bills a high priority and be sure they are brought out of committee and passed. Your efforts in this very important matter is appreciated.

Yes, I do have children in a charter school in Anchorage. I have four children currently in a charter school with a fifth to begin in 2003. The Family Partnership Charter School has been a great asset in our children and many other Anchorage children's education. The continuation of this charter school and others is needed for quality education.

Sincerely,

Jim Dowd  
2725 Telequana Dr  
Anchorage, Alaska 99517  
dowd7@gci.net

VR: 13-203/R

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate  
Health, Education &  
Social Services  
Committee

Senate  
Labor & Commerce  
Committee

Senate  
State Affairs  
Committee




SENATOR BETTYE DAVIS

*While in Session*  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
(907) 465-3822  
Fax: (907) 465-3756

*While in Anchorage*  
716 West 4th Ave.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907) 269-0144  
fax: (907) 269-0148

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Sen. Drue Pearce, Rules Committee Chair  
Sen. Lyda Green, HESS Committee Chair  
Sens. Pete Kelly and Dave Donley, Finance Committee Co-chairs

FROM: Sheila Gardner   
Legislative Aide to Sen. Bettye Davis  
Alaska State Capitol Bldg., Room 504  
Ext. #6847

DATE: April 19, 2001

RE: Charter School Amendment (HB 101) and SB 89

Senator Davis has asked that I forward the attached letter from Linda Sharp, founder of Village Charter Schools, to Senate Rules, HESS and Finance chairs. Ms. Sharp supports HB 101 and Senator Davis' companion bill, SB 89.

If you have any questions, please call Ms. Sharp at 907-245-5501. Thanking you in advance for your consideration.

April 13, 2001

RE: Charter School Law amendment: HB-101

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB-101 and Senator Bettye Davis' twin bill with the same wording this year. Please consider co-sponsoring Senator Davis' bill to help it move along more quickly. Charter schools are public schools, and accept all students whose families desire to enroll them. They serve the full demographic and socio-economic population of their area, as does the charter school I work in. The students ARE public school students. Needed changes this year include:

- \* **Autonomy:** Charter Schools, in order to survive and complete, must have a choice of sponsoring agencies. It would not be logical that a hospital intending to compete for excellent medical services and provide innovations not already in service, would have to be supervised by the existing hospital system. If the slaves were required to get their Freedom Passport from the Plantation Owners in order to leave, they would not have been able to survive. The same contradiction applies in requiring that the only choice of sponsors be the local school district. Arizona's law provides for an Independent Board for Charter Schools, with representatives reflecting the balance of the state population serving as volunteers, with a small office and a couple of staffers. Alaska could do that, with a very tiny office and one staff person.
- \* **Funding:** Presenting, the charter school I founded nets about \$3,800 after the local school district takes their cut for paying our bills. We choose to be a small school with current enrollment under 100. Under the same roof of the building we rent from the local school district, is another charter choosing to have over 200 students. They receive more than \$5,000 per student for doing the exact same thing: educating students.
- \* **Facility:** We are desperate for facility. From the \$3800 we receive from you, we pay around \$1,000 per student for rent, leaving about \$2800 to educate students. We must hire teachers from the local districts Eligible to Hire list; and pay all their wages and benefits. We must take all required tests, training, attend meetings and follow all policies and procedures.

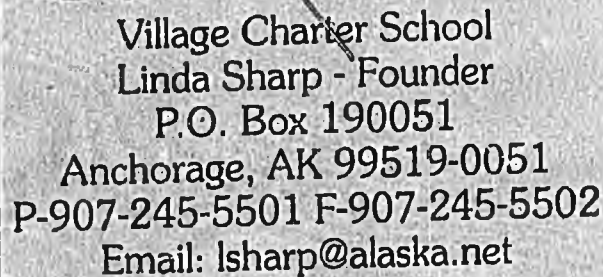
This is our third official year of operation. We have no office, no principal (nor executive), no library -- volunteers and staff volunteers must fill in for all this, because we would be in the red, as was Walden Pond, and shut down if we were to try to fund a full-time office and principal.

I would be most happy to assist you in getting this bill passed. Please let me know how I can help you. Thank you for considering my views.



Linda Sharp, Founder  
Village Charter School  
Box 190051  
Anchorage, AK 99519  
Tel. 245-5501  
Email: lsharp@alaska.net

WR: 13-291/u



Village Charter School  
Linda Sharp - Founder  
P.O. Box 190051  
Anchorage, AK 99519-0051  
P-907-245-5501 F-907-245-5502  
Email: lsharp@alaska.net

Linda Sharp  
PO Box 190051  
Anch, AK 99519  
VR: 13-291/u

**Subject: Lyda Green, Dave Donley, HB=101**

**Date: Thu, 19 Apr 2001 03:31:35 -0800**

**From: Linda Sharp <lsharp@alaska.net>**

**To: Senator\_Lyda\_Green@legis.state.ak.us, Senator\_Dave\_Donley@legis.state.ak.us**

HB-101 Rep. Dyson's bill for Charter Schools

Dear Senator Green and Senator Donley,

I hope that you might consider helping Rep. Dyson and Senator Davis get HB-101 passed this year. Would you consider co-sponsoring this bill? That would be the biggest help you could give, is to co-sponsor it now and get it to move out of committee quickly.

Charter Schools are public schools and need the same support as any other public school, if they are to have a chance of succeeding in educating students. They require more parental effort to get to them and to keep a child in them, and do not offer "bussing", "hot lunches" and so forth thus requiring parents to think many times a year if it is the right choice.

There are three areas of this bill needing modifying:

\* **Autonomy** - I operate a small three-year-old charter in ANchorage, under the local school district's oversight. We prefer to be autonomous, and to be supervised by an Independent Board of volunteers statewide. They would need only one part-time administrative assistant and a very small office, and travel expenses six times a year. They would review fiduciary reports, test scores and safety.

\* **Funding** - charters are public schools serving the full range of learners. In many cases, those children who have struggled and failed in other schools are brought to the charters to "fix". This in some cases has even been true at our charter. In fact, we have about 30% of our students newly enrolling, who are well below grade level in reading and math scores. We consistently bring them up to grade level and many are now working ABOVE grade level.

However, we need EQUAL funding. Please amend this bill to say that there is NO LIMIT on the number of students in a school that get equal funding. It is not a good nor equitable way to fund any school, penalizing those who elect to be small schools.

\* **Sunset** - There should be no sunset, and contracts should be revolving ten-year contracts. In order to secure facilities and other aspects of operational decisions, we need ten year revolving contracts. Acceptable test scores and financial management, along with safety, should determine wither a contract is renewed.

Thank you for considering my request. I will help you in any way I am able. Thank you again,  
Linda Sharp  
Anchorage  
Tel. 245-5501

**Subject: HB 101**

**Date:** Thu, 19 Apr 2001 13:21:23 -0800

**From:** Katja Bayer-Haase <haasefamily@gci.net>

**To:** <Senator\_Lyda\_Green@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator\_Loren\_Leman@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator\_Gary\_Wilken@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator\_Jerry\_Ward@legis.state.ak.us>, <Senator\_Bettye\_Davis@legis.state.ak.us>

Greetings,

we are writing to you today to kindly ask you to support the passing of HB 101, co-sponsored by Senator Bettye Davis and Representative Fred Dyson.

This bill is a small step in the right direction to correct some major flaws in the current Charter School Law.

We are parents of a first grader who attends the second year a small K-8 grade Charter School in Anchorage ( Village Charter School). Many aspects of the curriculum attracted us and so far we have been more than pleased with the excellent education our son is receiving. We are seeing him excelling academically and socially in the small school atmosphere under the guidance of dedicated teachers.

Here are the challenges we are seeing and which we hope HB 101 will address and at least partially amend:

\* Financing: As a small, currently 80 student school we are only allocated \$3.850,00 per student, from which we have to pay rent for space owned by the ASD as well as some space in a near -by commercial center. We net around \$ 2.850,-- to pay NEA teachers and all other required costs. Next door to us is another Charter School who elects to be larger in size. They receive about 150 % of what our school receives from the Alaska Legislature. Our "smallness" is in many ways one of our strenghts.

PLEASE seriously consider that there should be NO LIMIT on the number of students in a Charter, in order to qualify for equal funding.

\* Sunset: Please eliminate the sunset ! Provide for ten year revolving contracts, so that we can secure a favorable rental agreement with landlords !

\* Autonomy: It seems an odd and often counter-productive situation that we are supervised by the Anchorage School District. Charter Schools are designed to provide alternatives to the existiting public school system. They are in a certain way providing a form of competition. this can be engergizing and fruitful IF Charter Schools have a choice of authorizing agencies. This has been done very successfully in Arizona.

Thank you in advance for speedy, positive actions regarding HB 101 !

Sincerely,

*NVR*  
Michael & Katharina Haase  
3513 Creekside Dr.  
Anchorage, AK 99504

*23-429/u*

Linda Sharp  
 PO Box 190051  
 Anch, AK 99519  
 VR: 13-291/L

**Subject: Sen.Davis' bill / HB-101**

**Date:** Fri, 13 Apr 2001 18:47:46 -0800

**From:** Linda Sharp <lsharp@alaska.net>

**To:** Senator\_Bettye\_Davis@legis.state.ak.us, Senator\_Robin\_Taylor@legis.state.ak.us,  
 Senator\_Kim\_Elton@legis.state.ak.us, Senator\_John\_Torgerson@legis.state.ak.us,  
 Senator\_Jerry\_Ward@legis.state.ak.us, Senator\_Rick\_Halford@legis.state.ak.us,  
 Senator\_Lyda\_Green@legis.state.ak.us, Senator\_Drue\_Pearce@legis.state.ak.us,  
 Senator\_Loren\_Leman@legis.state.ak.us, Senator\_Dave\_Donley@legis.state.ak.us,  
 Senator\_Pete\_Kelly@legis.state.ak.us, Senator\_Gene\_Therriault@legis.state.ak.us,  
 Senator\_Lyman\_Hoffman@legis.state.ak.us, Senator\_Donny\_Olson@legis.state.ak.us,  
 Senator\_John\_Cowdery@legis.state.ak.us

April 13, 2001

RE: Charter School Law

amendment: HB-101

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB-101 and Senator Bettye Davis' twin bill with the same wording this year. Please consider co-sponsoring Senator Davis' bill to help it move along more quickly. Charter schools are public schools, and accept all students whose families desire to enroll them. They serve the full demographic and socio-economic population of their area, as does the charter school I work in. The students ARE public school students. Needed changes this year include:

\* **Autonomy:** Charter Schools, in order to survive and complete, must have a choice of sponsoring agencies. It would not be logical that a hospital intending to compete for excellent medical services and provide innovations not already in service, would have to be supervised by the existing hospital system. If the slaves were required to get their Freedom Passport from the Plantation Owners in order to leave, they would not have been able to survive. The same contradiction applies in requiring that the only choice of sponsors be the local school district. Arizona's law provides for an Independent Board for Charter Schools, with representatives reflecting the balance of the state population serving as volunteers, with a small office and a couple of staffers. Alaska could do that, with a very tiny office and one staff person.

\* **Funding:** Presenting, the charter school I founded nets about \$3,800 after the local school district takes their cut for paying our bills. We choose to be a small school with current enrollment under 100. Under the same roof of the building we rent from the local school district, is another charter choosing to have over 200 students. They receive more than \$5,000 per student for doing the exact same thing: educating students.

\* **Facility:** We are desperate for facility. From the \$3800 we receive from you, we pay around \$1,000 per student for rent, leaving about \$2800 to educate students. We must hire teachers from the local districts Eligible to Hire list; and pay all their wages and benefits. We must take all required tests, training, attend meetings and follow all policies and procedures.

This is our third official year of operation. We have no

office, no principal (nor executive), no library -- volunteers and staff volunteers must fill in for all this, because we would be in the red, as was Walden Pond, and shut down if we were to try to fund a full-time office and principal.

I would be most nappy to assist you in getting this bill passed. Please let me know how I can help you. Thank you for considering my views.

Linda Sharp, Founder  
Village Charter School  
Box 190051  
Anchorage, AK 99519  
Tel. 245-5501  
Email: lsharp@alaska.net

**Subject: Re: Charter School Bill**

**Date:** Mon, 23 Apr 2001 14:19:38 -0800

**From:** Senator Lyda Green <Senator\_Lyda\_Green@legis.state.ak.us>

**To:** kchap@ak.net

Kathy Chapoton  
PO Box 520997  
Big Lake, AK 99652  
WR: 28-003/A

April 23, 2001

Dear Kathy,

Thank you for your kind email regarding charter school legislation.

I am glad to hear all is going well at your school. I think the Charter School bill will get through this year.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to call my office at 1-877-465-6601.

Thank Martin for the very nice phone call.

Again, thank you for your email.

Sincerely,  
Lyda Green  
Senator, District N

LG/SH

**Subject: Charter School Bill**

**Date:** Fri, 20 Apr 2001 07:42:52 -0800

**From:** Kathy Chapoton <kchap@ak.net>

**To:** Senator Green <Senator\_Lyda\_Green@legis.state.ak.us>

We are watching the Charter School Bill and are happy to see it is moving through the system. MSun is doing very well and we are excited at the prospect of continuing.

THANKS! for all the work you are doing!!!

Kathy Chapoton

DOIS D. DALLAS  
22424 N. Birchwood Loop #122  
Chugiak, AK 99567-6464  
April 23, 2001

RECEIVED  
APR 27 2001

Senator Rick Halford  
President, Alaska State Senate  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Halford:

Thanks for your letter dated March 23, 2001 in which you discussed the meeting here at the Chugiak Senior Center in March 17<sup>th</sup>.

I spoke in favor of revising the current procedure of funding charter schools at that meeting. I simply cannot understand why small, struggling charter schools do not receive a per student allocation at least equivalent to the regular public schools --- unless the legislature wants to choke these charter schools to death, or unless some educator is exerting undue influence on some key members in the House and Senate.

I realize that it is late in the season but would you please use your good influence to correct this discrepancy in HB101 as it works its way to final passage.

My grandchildren in both Fairbanks and Anchorage are in schools that vary greatly in this funding formula. I know from personal experience that parents and grandparents are concerned and are actively participating in the day - to - day education delivery systems in these charter schools.

Your assistance will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

  
Dois D. Dallas

cc: Rep. Fred Dyson  
Senator Gary Wilken

POSTAGE PAID

**CS FOR HB 101 (FIN) CHARTER SCHOOLS**  
**By Representative Fred Dyson w/ 23 House co-sponsors**

**SECTIONAL ANALYSIS**

Sec.	Statute	Existing	Changes
1	AS 14.03.250(a) Education, Libraries, and Museums Public Schools Generally Charter Schools Establishment of charter schools	A charter school may be established upon approval of the local school board and the state board. There may not be more than 30 charter schools in the state. Lists a geographically oriented placement for amounts of schools.	There may be 60 charter schools in the state. Geographic placement of schools removed.
2	AS 14.03.255(a) Education, Libraries, and Museums Public Schools Generally Charter Schools Organization and operation of a charter school	A charter school operates as a school in a district, except that it is exempt certain things.	Specifies that a charter school must give competency tests as required.
3	AS 14.03.255(c) Education, Libraries, and Museums Public Schools Generally Charter Schools Organization and operation of a charter school	List of things that a contract between the charter school and the local school board must include. The term of the contract may not exceed 5 years.	Term of the contract raised to 10 years.
4	AS 14.03.255(d) Education, Libraries, and Museums Public Schools Generally Charter Schools Organization and operation of a charter school	A charter school facility must meet the health and safety requirements applicable to other schools in the district.	The facility may also meet the requirements for public buildings.
5	AS 14.03.263 Education, Libraries, and Museums Public Schools Generally Charter Schools Charter school grant program	None. New section added.	A charter school may receive a one-time grant to provide educational services from the department in the amount of \$500 for each pupil. The department will set procedures for application for and expenditure of grant funds. If the amount of money due according to applications is not the amount of money granted to the program, each pupil's grant will be reduced. <b>Where does this grant money come from? FNI</b> <b>Do the schools have any recourse if they don't receive a full per-pupil grant for the year they applied, but could the next year?</b> <b>Does this apply only to start-up charter schools or are existing charter schools included?</b>
6	AS 14.03.275 Education, Libraries, and Museums Public Schools Generally Charter Schools Contracts: duration	The contract of a charter school may not be longer than 5 years and may not exceed beyond July 1, 2005.	Contract time allowed raised to 10 years. Ending date removed.

Prepared by Aurora Hauke, Senate HESS Committee Aide

**CS FOR HB 101 (FIN) CHARTER SCHOOLS**  
**By Representative Fred Dyson w/ 23 House co-sponsors**

**SECTIONAL ANALYSIS**

Sec.	Statute	Existing	Changes
7	AS 14.17.905(b) Education, Libraries, and Museums Financing of Public Schools General Provisions Facilities constituting a school	None. New subsection added.	A charter school will be counted as a separate school if it has an ADM of 150 or higher, instead of the 200 ADM that applies to normal schools.
8	Section 9, ch. 77, SLA 1995 Establishing a pilot program for charter schools; and providing for an effective date.	Pilot program repealed July 1, 2005.	Removes repeal provision of the Act. Pilot program doesn't ever get repealed.
9	effective date		July 1, 2001

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 101(FIN)**  
**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**  
**TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 4/19/01**  
**Referred: Rules**

**Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES DYSON, Rokeberg, Guess, Green, Foster, Fate, Hudson, Meyer, Kott, Bunde, Scalzi, Coghill, Chenault, Murkowski, Masek, Harris, Whitaker, McGuire, Kookesh, Kerttula, Lancaster, Croft, Mulder, Kohring**

**A BILL**  
**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to charter schools; and providing for an effective date."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 **\* Section 1.** AS 14.03.250(a) is amended to read:

4           (a) A charter school may be established as provided under AS 14.03.250 -  
5           14.03.290 upon the approval of the local school board and the state Board of  
6           Education and Early Development of an application for a charter school. The state  
7           Board of Education and Early Development may not approve more than 60 [30]  
8           charter schools to operate in the state at any one time [AND SHALL APPROVE  
9           CHARTER SCHOOLS IN A GEOGRAPHICALLY BALANCED MANNER AS  
10          FOLLOWS: NOT MORE THAN 10 SCHOOLS IN ANCHORAGE; NOT MORE  
11          THAN FIVE SCHOOLS IN FAIRBANKS; NOT MORE THAN THREE SCHOOLS  
12          IN THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH; NOT MORE THAN THREE  
13          SCHOOLS IN THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH; NOT MORE THAN TWO  
14          SCHOOLS IN THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU; NOT MORE THAN  
15          SEVEN SCHOOLS LOCATED IN OTHER AREAS OF THE STATE, AND THESE

1 SEVEN SCHOOLS SHALL BE ALLOCATED AS NEARLY AS POSSIBLE IN A  
 2 GEOGRAPHICALLY BALANCED MANNER THROUGHOUT THE REST OF  
 3 THE STATE].

4 \* Sec. 2. AS 14.03.255(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) A charter school operates as a school in the local school district except that  
 6 the charter school (1) is exempt from the local school district's textbook, program,  
 7 curriculum, and scheduling requirements; (2) is exempt from AS 14.14.130(c); the  
 8 principal of the charter school shall be selected by the academic policy committee and  
 9 shall select, appoint, or otherwise supervise employees of the charter school; and (3)  
 10 operates under the charter school's annual program budget as set out in the contract  
 11 between the local school board and the charter school under (c) of this section. A  
 12 local school board may exempt a charter school from other local school district  
 13 requirements if the exemption is set out in the contract. A charter school is subject  
 14 to secondary school competency testing as provided in AS 14.03.075 and other  
 15 competency tests required by the department.

16 \* Sec. 3. AS 14.03.255(c) is amended to read:

17 (c) A charter school shall operate under a contract between the charter school  
 18 and the local school board. A contract must contain the following provisions:  
 19 (1) a description of the educational program;  
 20 (2) specific levels of achievement for the education program;  
 21 (3) admission policies and procedures;  
 22 (4) administrative policies;  
 23 (5) a statement of the charter school's funding allocation from the local  
 24 school board and costs assignable to the charter school program budget;  
 25 (6) the method by which the charter school will account for receipts  
 26 and expenditures;  
 27 (7) the location and description of the facility;  
 28 (8) the name of the teacher, or teachers, who, by agreement between  
 29 the charter school and the teacher, will teach in the charter school;  
 30 (9) the teacher-to-student ratio;  
 31 (10) the number of students served;

1 (11) the term of the contract, not to exceed a term of 10 [FIVE] years;

2 (12) a termination clause providing that the contract may be terminated  
3 by the local school board for the failure of the charter school to meet educational  
4 achievement goals or fiscal management standards, or for other good cause;

5 (13) a statement that the charter school will comply with all state and  
6 federal requirements for receipt and use of public money;

7 (14) other requirements or exemptions agreed upon by the charter  
8 school and the local school board.

9 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 14.03.255(d) is amended to read:

10 (d) A charter school may be operated in an existing school district facility or  
11 in a facility within the school district that is not currently being used as a public  
12 school, if the chief school administrator determines the facility meets requirements for  
13 health and safety applicable to public buildings or other public schools in the district.

14 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

15 **Sec. 14.03.263. Charter school grant program.** (a) A charter school may  
16 receive a one-time grant from the department equal to the amount of \$500 for each  
17 pupil enrolled in the charter school on October 1 of the year in which the school  
18 applies for the grant. The charter school shall use a grant received under this  
19 subsection to provide educational services. In this subsection, "educational services"  
20 includes curriculum development, program development, and special education  
21 services.

22 (b) The department shall establish by regulation procedures for application for  
23 and expenditure of grant funds under (a) of this section.

24 (c) If the amount appropriated in a fiscal year for the charter school grant  
25 program is insufficient to meet the amounts authorized under (a) of this section, the  
26 department shall reduce pro rata each pupil's grant by the necessary percentage as  
27 determined by the department.

28 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 14.03.275 is amended to read:

29 **Sec. 14.03.275. Contracts; duration.** A contract for a charter school may be  
30 for a term of no more than 10 [FIVE] years [AND MAY NOT EXTEND BEYOND  
31 JULY 1, 2005].

1 \* Sec. 7. AS 14.17.905 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

2 (b) Notwithstanding (a)(3) of this section, a charter school shall be counted as  
3 a separate school if the charter school has an ADM of at least 150 students.

4 \* Sec. 8. Section 9, ch. 77, SLA 1995, is repealed.

5 \* Sec. 9. This Act takes effect July 1, 2001.

# SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 4/25/01

FURTHER: Finance

DATE TURNED IN TO OFFICE: 04/28/01

Health, Education and Social Services Committee considered CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 101(FIN)

"An Act relating to charter schools; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with SCS CS HB 101 (HES)
- adopt previous \_\_\_\_\_ CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by \_\_\_\_\_ Committee
- further referral to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

**Senate Bill:**

- same title
- new title

**House Bill:**

- same title
- technical title
- new: SCR # \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department	Date	Fiscal	Zero	FN#

**PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department	Date	Fiscal	Zero	FN#
DEED	2/16/01	x		1
DEED	2/23/01	x		2

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
<i>Brew D. Fenwick</i>	✓			
<i>Samuel</i>			✓	
<i>Beauvais</i>	✓			
CHAIR: <i>Lyle Green</i>	✓			



Alaska State Legislature

- Interim (May-Dec) -  
10928 Eagle River Rd., Suite 110  
Eagle River, Alaska 99577  
☎ (907) 694-6683  
FAX (907) 694-1015

- Session (Jan-May) -  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
☎ (907) 465-2199  
FAX (907) 465-1587

Toll free (800) 342-2199

## REPRESENTATIVE FRED DYSON

### MEMORANDUM

April 24, 2001

To: Senator Lyda Green, Chair  
Senate HESS Committee

From: Fred Dyson *Fred Dyson*  
State Representative

RE: Request for consideration of HB 101, Charter Schools

I respectfully request that you schedule CSHB 101 (FIN)\S, An Act Relating to Charter Schools for hearing at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

*HB 101 is on the house floor today & ~~is~~  
is probably going to pass unanimously.  
Dyson's office came over to request a  
hearing ASAP.*

- E-mail -  
Representative\_Fred\_Dyson  
@Legis.state.ak.us

- Internet -  
<http://www.akrepublicans.org>



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## REPRESENTATIVE FRED DYSON

### HB 101

### Sponsor Statement

#### "An Act relating to charter schools

Updated: February 1, 2001

Contact: Representative Fred Dyson's office at (907) 465-2199

**House Bill 101** is intended to extend and strengthen the existing Alaska Charter School Law. The current law on the books is scheduled to sunset on July 1, 2005 (less than 4 ½ years from now). This means that any new charter school cannot be approved for the allowable five year charter. Existing charter schools are having a difficult time securing facility purchase and lease agreements because their remaining contracts are something less than 4 ½ years and cannot be extended beyond 2005.

Some of our charter schools are exciting, dynamic examples of parents being involved in their children's education. Intensive parental involvement has stretched the system in a positive way. Most charter schools are struggling because we have not given them the tools they need to succeed. I believe the demonstrated passionate involvement of parents and the good results indicate we should go beyond eliminating the sunset and allowing for longer contracts.

HB 101 is similar to the charter school law I sponsored last session except that it abandons the effort to mandate a succinct accounting statement to be part of the charter. It also abandons the attempt to mandate distribution of a pro-rated share of local contributions to go to charter schools

HB 101 makes the following changes to the existing charter school law:

- Eliminates the July, 2005 sunset clause.
- Extends the allowable contract length from 5 to 10 years.
- Eliminates the geographic distribution requirements.
- Doubles the cap from 30 to 60 charter schools.
- Clarifies that charter schools are not exempt from competency testing.
- Allows Charter Schools to be counted as separate a school if the ADM is over 150 (reference AS 14.17.905)
- Provides a one-time "start-up" grant.
- Allows for charter school use of safe public buildings with District Superintendent approval.

We have two options: 1) strengthen the charter school law to encourage continued new thinking and foster more fresh education reform, or 2) do nothing and watch the investment of countless hours of hundreds of parents die on the vine. Merely extending the sunset and lifting the cap will not be enough. HB 101 is probably not enough, but it is a step toward quality in public education.

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## CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 101(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
 TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered:

Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES DYSON, Rokeberg, Guess, Green, Foster, Fate, Hudson, Meyer, Kott, Bunde, Scalzi, Coghill, Chenault, Murkowski, Masek, Harris, Whitaker, McGuire, Kookesh, Kerttula, Lancaster, Croft, Mulder

## A BILL

## FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to charter schools; and providing for an effective date."

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

3 \* Section 1. AS 14.03.250(a) is amended to read:

4 (a) A charter school may be established as provided under AS 14.03.250 -  
 5 14.03.290 upon the approval of the local school board and the state Board of  
 6 Education and Early Development of an application for a charter school. The state  
 7 Board of Education and Early Development may not approve more than 60 [30]  
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 9 CHARTER SCHOOLS IN A GEOGRAPHICALLY BALANCED MANNER AS  
 10 FOLLOWS: NOT MORE THAN 10 SCHOOLS IN ANCHORAGE; NOT MORE  
 11 THAN FIVE SCHOOLS IN FAIRBANKS; NOT MORE THAN THREE SCHOOLS  
 12 IN THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH; NOT MORE THAN THREE  
 13 SCHOOLS IN THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH; NOT MORE THAN TWO  
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 9 shall select, appoint, or otherwise supervise employees of the charter school; and (3)  
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- 31 (10) the number of students served;

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16 receive a one-time grant from the department equal to the amount of \$500 for each  
17 pupil enrolled in the charter school on October 1 of the year in which the school  
18 applies for the grant. The charter school shall use a grant received under this  
19 subsection to provide educational services. In this subsection, "educational services"  
20 includes curriculum development, program development, and special education  
21 services.

22 (b) The department shall establish by regulation procedures for application for  
23 and expenditure of grant funds under (a) of this section.

24 (c) If the amount appropriated in a fiscal year for the charter school grant  
25 program is insufficient to meet the amounts authorized under (a) of this section, the  
26 department shall reduce pro rata each pupil's grant by the necessary percentage as  
27 determined by the department.

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1 \* Sec. 7. AS 14.17.905 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

2 (b) Notwithstanding (a)(3) of this section, a charter school shall be counted as  
3 a separate school if the charter school has an ADM of at least 150 students.

4 \* Sec. 8. Section 9, ch. 77, SLA 1995, is repealed.

5 \* Sec. 9. This Act takes effect July 1, 2001.

HB 101 Sectional Analysis

Revised: March 6, 2001 LS0254\p

**Section 1:** Doubles the allowable number of charter schools in Alaska from 30 to 60. This section also eliminates the geographic distribution requirement.

**Section 2:** Specifies that charter schools are subject to Benchmark and High School Qualifying Exam requirements.

**Section 3:** Specifies what must be included in a charter school contract. The changes HB 101 makes to existing law are grammatical except for one that conforms with the contract duration change that is made in Section 5.

**Section 4:** Allows charter schools to use safe public buildings with approval of District Superintendent.

**Section 5:** Adds a new section of law that allows for a one-time charter school grant in the amount of \$500 per student.

**Section 6:** Changes the allowable charter school contract length from a maximum of 5 years to a maximum of 10 years.

**Section 7:** Specifies that a charter school needs at least 150 students to be counted as a separate school for purposes of foundation formula calculations. (Existing law states that alternative schools need at least 200 students.)

**Section 8:** Repeals the July, 2005 charter school law sunset date.

**Section 9:** Sets an effective date.

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2001 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bill Version: CS HB 101 (HESS)  
 () Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected: DEED  
 Title: "An Act relating to charter schools; and providing BRU: K-12 Support  
for an effective date." Component: Foundation Program  
 Sponsor: Representative Fred Dyson  
 Requester: House HESS Component Number: 141

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims	609.8	609.8	609.8	609.8	609.8	609.8
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>609.8</b>	<b>609.8</b>	<b>609.8</b>	<b>609.8</b>	<b>609.8</b>	<b>609.8</b>

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
----------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )						
------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	609.8	609.8	609.8	609.8	609.8	609.8
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>609.8</b>	<b>609.8</b>	<b>609.8</b>	<b>609.8</b>	<b>609.8</b>	<b>609.8</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2001) cost: 0.0

Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2002 budget proposal:

**POSITIONS**

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

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

HB 101 Sec. 6. AS 14.17.905 is being amended to reflect Charter Schools with an Average Daily Membership (ADM) of at least 150, would be entitled to be counted as a separate school.  
 (please see attached spreadsheet)

Prepared by: Eddy Jeans, School Finance Manager Phone 465-8679  
 Division: Education Support Services Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approved by: Bruce Johnson, Deputy Commissioner of Education Date 2/23/01  
 Agency: Education and Early Development

For distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

District	FY'02 Projected Charter ADM's	Money generated based on AS 14.17.905
Anchorage Aquarian	240	
Anchorage Family Partnership*	799	
Anchorage Village Charter	120	
Craig PACE CS*	200	
Delta/Greely Cyber School*	202	
Fairbanks Chinook Charter	96	
Fairbanks New Beginnings	34	
Iditarod Takotna Charter	35	
Juneau Community Charter	60	
Kenai Aurora Borealis	129	
Kenai Homer Charter School	26	
Ketchikan Charter School	128	
Lower Kuskokwim Ayaprun Elitnaurvik Yup'ik Immersion	190	609,755
Mat-Su Academy Charter	135	
Mat-Su Midnight Sun	92	
Nome Anvil City Science Acad.	20	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,506</b>	<b>609,755</b>

\* These are correspondence schools.

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2001 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bill Version: CS HB 101 (HESS)  
 () Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected: Education and Early Development  
 Title: "An Act relating to charter schools; and BRU: Teaching & Learning Support  
providing for an effective date." Component: Quality Schools  
 Sponsor: Representative Dyson  
 Requester: House HESS Component Number: 2147

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Personal Services	101.0	101.0	101.0	101.0	101.0	101.0
Travel	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Contractual	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0
Supplies	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Equipment	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims	1,253.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>1,425.0</b>	<b>170.0</b>	<b>170.0</b>	<b>170.0</b>	<b>170.0</b>	<b>170.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>						
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	1,425.0	170.0	170.0	170.0	170.0	170.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,425.0</b>	<b>170.0</b>	<b>170.0</b>	<b>170.0</b>	<b>170.0</b>	<b>170.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2001) cost: 0.0

**POSITIONS**

Full-time	1					
Part-time						
Temporary						

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

Please refer to the attached sheets for a detailed description.

Sec. 4. AS 14.03.263 provides start-up grant to 16 charter schools at \$500 per pupil. This fiscal note does not project the estimated cost for the additional 44 charter schools authorized by this legislation.

Prepared by: Barbara Thompson, Deputy Director Phone (907) 465-8727  
 Division: Teaching & Learning Support Date/Time 2/16/01 12:00 AM  
 Approved by: Bruce Johnson, Deputy Commissioner of Education Date 2/23/01  
 Agency: Department of Education & Early Development

For distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

### *Fiscal Note Description for HB 101*

Section 1 of HB 101 removes the former requirements that the State Board of Education & Early Development may not approve more than 30 charter schools to operate in the state at one time and shall approve charter schools in a geographically balanced manner. Amended language raises the cap on the number of charter schools to be allowed from 30 to 60. Language related to approval of charter schools geographically is eliminated.

Section 2 requires that charter schools be subject to secondary school competency testing as provided in AS 14.03.075.

Section 3 adds minor revisions to existing provisions and extends allowable charter school contract time from 5 years to 10 years.

Section 4 creates a new Charter School Grant Program. A charter school may receive a one-time grant from the department equal to \$500 per pupil. This funding shall be used to provide educational services (curriculum development, program development, and special education services.).

Section 5 addresses extending the allowable charter school contract time from 5 years to 10 years.

#### *Personal Services – \$101,000*

One, new FTE Education Specialist II, Range 21, position is needed to administer the charter schools application process for up to 60 schools; administer the new Charter Schools Grant Program; provide technical assistance to school district and charter school staff who are planning for or initiating a charter school; assure compliance with state charter school statutes and regulations; assure quality programs are developed and supported; develop and maintain a charter schools regulations process; and evaluate the effectiveness of Alaska's charter schools.  
(\$77,000)

Funds for .10 FTE of an existing Grants Administrator II position are needed to address fiscal issues, issuing grant awards and completing fiscal documents related to charter schools grant applications and billings. (\$7,000)

Funds for a .5 FTE Administrative Clerk II position are needed to provide clerical support to the Education Specialist II and for the application process. (\$17,000)

Although the Grants Administrator II and Administrative Clerk II positions are existing positions, current federal fund sources are not sufficient to fund the charter schools duties that would be assigned to them.

*Travel – (\$5,000)*

Travel funding is needed to provide for a limited number of technical assistance and/or compliance reviews of charter schools. (\$5,000)

*Contractual – (\$60,000)*

Contractual funding is needed primarily for evaluation of the effectiveness and success of charter schools in Alaska. Additionally, some funding is needed to support administrative services functions, postage, phone charges, copier charges, printing and dissemination of information about effective and successful charter schools and Charter Schools Grant Program applications. (\$60,000)

*Supplies – \$4,000*

Funding is needed for the purchase of general office supplies and materials for meetings related to charter schools. (\$4,000)

*Equipment - \$2,000*

Funding is needed for the purchase of a computer for the Education Specialist II position. (\$2,000)

*Grants – \$1,253*

Funding is needed in the grant line for the newly created Charter Schools Grant Program. This program allows for a charter school to receive a one-time grant from the department equal to \$500 per pupil. This funding shall be used to provide educational services (curriculum development, program development, and special education services).

District	FY'02 Projected Charter ADM's	AS 14.03.263(a) One Time Grant of \$500 Per Pupil
Anchorage Aquarian	240	120,000
Anchorage Family Partnership*	799	399,500
Anchorage Village Charter	120	60,000
Craig PACE CS*	200	100,000
Delta/Greely Cyber School*	202	101,000
Fairbanks Chinook Charter	96	48,000
Fairbanks New Beginnings	34	17,000
Iditarod Takotna Charter	35	17,500
Juneau Community Charter	60	30,000
Kenai Aurora Borealis	129	64,500
Kenai Homer Charter School	26	13,000
Ketchikan Charter School	128	64,000
Lower Kuskokwim Ayaprun Elitnaurvik Yup'ik Immersion	190	95,000
Mat-Su Academy Charter	135	67,500
Mat-Su Midnight Sun	92	46,000
Nome Anvil City Science Acad.	20	10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,506</b>	<b>1,253,000</b>

\* These are correspondence schools.

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEMO NO. 01-087

A RESOLUTION OF MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 101. THE LEGISLATION RELATING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS.

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District appreciates our legislators' support of the concept of choice for charter schools; and

WHEREAS, the current law authorizes a charter school to operate in an existing school district facility within the school district, but provides no funding; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District strives to provide an allowance for charter school facilities, the financial impact on the operating fund is great; and

WHEREAS, the charter school does not generate funding as a separate site under the foundation funding; and

WHEREAS, it is our belief that the concept of choice is an important aspect to our community; and

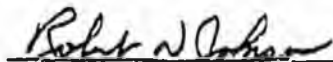
WHEREAS, the new section of CSHB 101(HES) reinforces this belief by proposing a one-time grant from the department to be used for educational services of \$500 for each pupil enrolled in the charter school; and

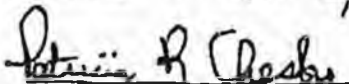
WHEREAS, the proposed House Bill 101 amends the current law to allow 60 charter schools to operate in the state at any one time; and

WHEREAS, the proposed House Bill 101 removes the sunset clause and authorizes a ten-year term for a charter school concept.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna School Board encourages the Alaska State Legislature to establish laws that will encourage the concept of choice by providing funding for charter school facilities and removing the sunset clause.

ADOPTED by Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District this 4th day of April, 2001.

  
Robert Johnson, School Board President

  
Patricia R. Chesbro, Superintendent

ATTEST:

  
Juliana Felix, Administrative Assistant

By: Assemblymember Colver  
Action:

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 01-020**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING  
HB 101, RELATING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS.**

WHEREAS, under current law the authorization for all charter schools sets a duration of no more than five years and may not extend beyond July 1, 2005; and

WHEREAS, CSHB 101(HES) authorizes a ten-year term for a charter school contract and removes the sunset clause; and

WHEREAS, the current law allows for no more than 30 charter schools to operate in the state at any one time; and

WHEREAS, HB 101 amends the law to allow 60 charter schools to operate in the state; and

WHEREAS, the current law authorizes a charter school to be operated in an existing school district facility within the school district, but provides no funding; and

WHEREAS, CSHB101(HES) proposes a new section, A.S. 14.03.263, which provides for a one-time grant from the department equal to the amount of \$500 for each pupil enrolled in the charter school on October 1 of the year in which the school applies for the grant to be used for educational services; and

WHEREAS, currently there is no provision for capital funds for operating facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly encourages the Alaska State Legislature to support legislation, such as HB 101, which eliminates the sunset clause for charter schools and provides grant funding for charter schools based on pupil enrollment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly encourages the Alaska State Legislature to also provide capital funds for charter school facilities.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this - day of -, 2001.

TIMOTHY L. ANDERSON, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

SANDRA A. DILLON, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COSPONSOR REQUEST**

CLERK

My name as cosponsor

is:

HB 101

Use one slip for each request.

[Signature]  
Member's Signature

3/29/01  
Date

Send to Chief Clerk before consideration  
of the daily calendar.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COSPONSOR REQUEST**

TO: CHIEF CLERK

Please add my name as cosponsor  
to the following:

HB 101

\*Use one slip for each request.

[Signature]  
Member's Signature

3/29/01  
Date

Send to Chief Clerk before consideration  
of the daily calendar.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COSPONSOR REQUEST**

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HB 101

\*Use one slip for each request.

[Signature]  
Member's Signature

3/29/01  
Date

Send to Chief Clerk before consideration  
of the daily calendar.

**HEB**

**112**

**adn.com**

Anchorage Daily News

## **Bill imposes abortion requirements**

**INFORM: Coghill's measure calls for brochure on risks and informed consent.**

**By Paul Queary  
The Associated Press**

*(Published March 10, 2001)*

Juneau -- A new bill would require women who seek abortions to sit through an extensive description of fetal development.

The proposal, sponsored by Rep. John Coghill, R-North Pole, would require the Department of Health and Social Services to develop a brochure containing photographs of a fetus at two-week intervals throughout pregnancy. The brochure would also list potential risks of abortion including infection, hemorrhage, complications in future pregnancies and infertility.

The measure is a toned-down version of a bill that Coghill, one of the Legislature's strongest opponents of abortion, sponsored last year that died in the House. It specifies that the brochure contain "objective, unbiased" information and eliminates a 24-hour waiting period included in last year's bill.

The bill also would establish a legal requirement that physicians providing abortions go through a lengthy process to get patients' informed consent for the procedure.

Abortion-rights advocates argued the bill would put hurdles and obstacles in front of women seeking abortions.

"Legislators should be more concerned about women's health and not trying to coerce them into carrying their pregnancies to term by whatever means possible," said Amber Ceffalio of the Juneau Pro-Choice Coalition, who testified Thursday before the House Health, Education and Social Services Committee with her 9-month-old son, Paul, squirming in her lap.

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SENATOR LYDA GREEN

HB112  
*abortion  
funding  
bill*

CONSTITUENT & PHONE MESSAGE CONTACT FORM

Name: Chris Kepler Date: 3-7-01

Phone: 269-0767 VR: 27-009

Address: HC2 Box 7810A Palmer, AK 99645-7810

Message: He wants to let the Sen. know that he supports her decision on monies being appropriated to fund abortions. He is sure that she's on the right side of this.

Check if No Response Needed - Message Only. Message Taken by: srh

Lyda's Response/Staff Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

POM for Senator Green



From: Eileen O Johnson  
501 Knik Rd

MC. 26-038/R

Telephone: -

Wasilla, AK 99654

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Email:

Bill: HB 112 Title: ABORTION: INFORMED CONSENT; INFORMATION  
Message:

I support John Coghill's HB 112: to pass legislation to give women full disclosure thus an informed decision can be made by the female carrying her child. To do otherwise is the possibility of death of a child and the blood on our hands. God help us!!

Entered in MAT on 3/14/01 POMID:99705 Stored

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THANK YOU for contacting our office. I appreciate hearing your ideas and opinions on the many concerns we are addressing in the Alaska State Legislature.

March 15, 2001

Dear Eileen,

As I review the issues, I will keep your comments in mind and do my best to make thoughtful, informed decisions. I applaud and appreciate the time and effort you put forth to speak up for Alaska!

Thank you for your Public Opinion Message regarding House Bill 112, an act to ensure informed consent before an abortion may be performed, except in cases of medical emergency.

Please stay in touch.

House Bill 112 has been referred to House Health, Education and Social Services Committee, if the bill is passed from the House it will most likely be referred to the Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee where I will attentively review the bill.

Sincerely,

ALASKA STATE CAPITOL, JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182  
PHONE: 465-6600, FAX: 465-3805. Senator\_Lyda\_Green@legis.state.ak.us

POM for Senator Green



From: Brenda L Shrader  
PO Box 873429

VE: 28-015/R

Telephone: -

Wasilla, AK 99687

Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Email:

Bill: HB 112 Title: ABORTION: INFORMED CONSENT; INFORMATION  
Message:

I have counseled girls and women for the past 5 years in the Mat Valley. Those that have had abortions, ALL have stated how UNinformed they were of their choice. They have all stated if they had been more informed of fetal development and health risk they would have chosen another alternative.

Entered in MAT on 3/14/01 POMID:99706 Stored

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Message 2 out of 11.

THANK YOU for contacting our office. I appreciate hearing your ideas and opinions on the many concerns we are addressing in the Alaska State Legislature.

March 15, 2001

Dear Brenda,

As I review the issues, I will keep your comments in mind and do my best to make thoughtful, informed decisions. I applaud and appreciate the time and effort you put forth to speak up for Alaska!

Thank you for your Public Opinion Message regarding House Bill 112, an act to ensure informed consent before an abortion may be performed, except in cases of medical emergency.

Please stay in touch.

House Bill 112 has been referred to House Health, Education and Social Services Committee, if the bill is passed from the House it will most likely be referred to the Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee where I will attentively review the bill.

Sincerely,

ALASKA STATE CAPITOL, JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182  
PHONE: 465-6600, FAX: 465-3805, Senator\_Lyda\_Green@legis.state.ak.us

**Subject: HB112**

**Date: Mon, 12 Mar 2001 19:57:04 -0900**

**From: Jean Kollantai <climb@pobox.alaska.net>**

**To: Senator\_Lyda\_Green@legis.state.ak.us**

I and my family strongly urge you not to pass this bill out of the HESS committee. It is unnecessary, biased, and when you get right down to it it's based on the premise that women are really stupid and thoughtless, and their doctors too. There are a lot of better things your committee could be doing for the welfare of our state.

Jean Kollantai  
Anchorage AK 99517

2124 Churchill dr.

WR:13-201/6

**SENATOR LYDA GREEN**

CONSTITUENT & PHONE MESSAGE CONTACT FORM

Name: Charis Berry Date: 3/8/01

Phone: 835-2898 VR: 35-123 R

Address: PO Box 1121 Valdez, AK 99686-1121

Message: HB 112 Opposes.

Check if No Response Needed - Message Only. Message Taken by: \_\_\_\_\_

Lyda's Response/Staff Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

# SENATOR LYDA GREEN

## CONSTITUENT & PHONE MESSAGE CONTACT FORM

Name: Rosalie Tadda Date: 3/13/01

Phone: 563-6986 VR: 20-393 R

Address: 4622 Pavalof St. Anchorage, AK 99507

Message: HB 112. She is in support of this bill and is against the courts being able to illegally bypass the legislature. Rosalie wants to let the legislature do its job.

Check if No Response Needed - Message Only. Message Taken by: srh

Lyda's Response/Staff Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

# SENATOR LYDA GREEN

## CONSTITUENT & PHONE MESSAGE CONTACT FORM

Name: Zinn Decker Sr. Date: 3/13/01

Phone: 457-2087 VR: 33-230 R

Address: PO Box 10525 Fairbanks, AK 99710

Message: HB 112. Zinn supports HB 112 and feels that there should be a seperation  
and that the State can't afford to fund these abortions anyway.

Check if No Response Needed - Message Only. Message Taken by: srh

Lyda's Response/Staff Instructions:

## POM for Senator Green



From: Ms. Ann M Pilch  
1205 Old Klatt Rd

VR: 17-345/R

Telephone: 344-7865

Anchorage, AK 99516

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Email:

Bill: HB 112 Title: ABORTION: INFORMED CONSENT; INFORMATION

Message:

**I believe HB 112 to be needed legislation to protect women. With any other medical procedure full disclosure is made, giving the patient her available options and a detailed description of potential risk. Abortion ,as a medical procedure, should be no different. Please support HB 112.**

Entered in ANC on 3/15/01 POMID:99711

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# CORRECTION

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT(S)  
HAVE BEEN REFILMED TO  
ASSURE LEGIBILITY OR PAGINATION



Central Microfilm Services  
Department of Education & Early Development  
State of Alaska

### POM for Senator Green



From: Ms. Ann M Pilch  
1205 Old Klatt Rd

VR: 17-345/R

Telephone: 344-7865

Anchorage, AK 99516

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Email:

Bill: HB 112 Title: ABORTION: INFORMED CONSENT; INFORMATION

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