



RESOLUTION 19-55

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH OPPOSING REDUCTIONS IN EDUCATIONAL FUNDING AND SUPPORTS CRAFTING A BUDGET THAT REFLECTS THE TRUE COST OF EDUCATING STUDENTS

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of Alaska in Article 7, Section 1 provides for public schools open to all children; and

WHEREAS, the policy of education is defined in Alaska Statute AS 14.03.015; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget for FY20 will cause significant and irreparable harm to school districts, communities, families, and students; and

WHEREAS, the Administration has failed to provide any data to determine the effect of the proposed reductions on Alaska's economy through the loss of jobs; and

WHEREAS, the budget proposal reduces the Base Student Allocation (BSA) by 22.9%, the largest reduction since statehood; and

WHEREAS, the budget proposal eliminates school bond debt reimbursement shifting the liability onto municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget eliminates early childhood programs harming our most vulnerable population; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget will mean the catastrophic loss of teaching positions, untenable increased class sizes, and complete elimination of academic and extra-curricular programs; and

WHEREAS, budget reductions of this magnitude will have significant detrimental effect on student achievement, reverse academic gains, and adversely affect current and future students for many years to come.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Aleutians East Borough Assembly is adamantly opposed to reductions in educational funding and calls on the Alaska Legislature to stand up for Alaska's children today and in the future and to reject the governor's proposed budget and craft a budget that reflects the true cost of educating students.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Aleutians East Borough on the 14th day of March, 2019.

Alvin D. Osterback, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tina Anderson, Clerk

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