

Sponsors: Carlson / Ystad / Mosher

Should this item be pulled from the Consent Agenda the following motion is suggested:

POSSIBLE MOTION

I MOVE TO approve Resolution 2025-06 supporting House Bill 69 An Act Related To Education Funding (*1st and final reading*).

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-06

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA
SUPPORTING HOUSE BILL 69 AN ACT RELATED TO EDUCATION FUNDING

WHEREAS, funding Alaska's public school system is a Constitutional duty and the far majority of students in Alaska attend public schools; and

WHEREAS, the continuous neglect and under-investment in our public schools must end for the benefit of our students, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, a Base Student Allocation (BSA) increase of \$1,808 is necessary to keep pace with inflation to FY '25 and \$1,963 is necessary to keep pace with inflation to FY '26; and

WHEREAS, it is our duty as a duly elected Assembly to ensure that all students have access to quality education, resources, and opportunities that they rightfully deserve under our state constitution; and

WHEREAS, a significant investment in Alaska's school system is needed NOW. Without an increase to the BSA, the Sitka School District (SSD) is facing a budget deficit of \$3,709,816 and, as a result, will have to cut 17% of the budget; and

WHEREAS, in FY '25, the SSD reduced their budget by 12%, which included eighteen (18) certified and six (6) classified staff; and

WHEREAS, the SSD needs a District wide technology refresh which would add approximately \$400,000 to the deficit; and

WHEREAS, the SSD has not completed a comprehensive curriculum review since 2012 which would add approximately \$400,000 to the deficit.; and

WHEREAS, an implementation of HB 69 statewide would greatly benefit the SSD's budget deficit, allowing the District to retain teachers and opportunities for their students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka strongly urges the passage of House Bill 60 by the Alaska State Legislature.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska this 25th day of February.

Steven Eisenbeisz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sara Peterson, MMC
Municipal Clerk

1st and final reading: 2/25/2025

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