

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION 2019-21:

**SUPPORT FOR SB 50: EMPLOYMENT TAX FOR EDUCATION FACILITIES
IN THE STATE'S K-12 SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, recent research by the Association of Alaska School Boards, the Alaska Council of School Administrators, and the Coalition for Education Equity in Alaska shows Alaska adults overwhelmingly support government funding for public K-12 schools and support elected officials who support public K-12 education; and

WHEREAS, from 1919 to 1980, Alaska, as a Territory and a State, imposed an annual employment head tax for the purpose of funding schools; and

WHEREAS, when repealed in 1980, the tax was \$10 per person, and when adjusted for inflation would have the equivalent value of \$30 today; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Superintendents Association believes most working Alaskans would readily pay such a tax again if it were reinstated at the proposed \$30 per worker; and

WHEREAS, the current budget deficit of the State of Alaska constrains the state's ability to address maintenance and new school construction needs in our school systems; and

WHEREAS, the need remains to finalize and implement a complete long-term multi-revenue fiscal plan for the State that includes additional revenue streams; and

WHEREAS, SB 50, which revives the employment head tax imposed on both residents and nonresidents, is estimated to raise \$13 million annually; and

WHEREAS, these new funds will be accounted for separately and used to pay for the growing maintenance and construction needs of Alaska's K-12 schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education supports SB 50: Employment Tax for Education Facilities to address the capital needs of Alaska's schools, and encourages the Alaska Legislature and Governor Dunleavy to approve SB 50, as soon as possible.

Passed and Approved: April 16, 2019


Wendy Dominique, President
Board of Education

ATTEST:



Sharon Tuttle
Executive Assistant to the Board of Education

