



# News From **MARY**

## **Representative Mary Kapsner**

Representing the Lower Kuskokwim and Upper Bristol Bay

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## **Education Bills to Watch**

### **School Funding Bills**

- HB 105 (Stevens) - Increases base student allocation by \$31 per student. (H) Rules
- HB 211 (Guess) - "Inflation-proofs" the base student allocation, based on changes in the Anchorage Consumer Price Index. (H) HESS
- HB 212 (Williams) - Suspends the supplemental funding floor in the foundation formula until 2004, until the new District Cost Factor Study is completed (Dec. 2002). (H) Rules
- HB 218 (Coghill) - Provides for districts who operate a secondary boarding school to receive additional funding. (H) EDU
- HB 342 (Stevens) - Early Funding. Requires governor to submit a separate budget for K-12 funding, and asks the legislature to pass by April 1. (H) HESS
- HB 379 (Governor) - Increases base student allocation for each of the next four years. Suspends the supplemental funding floor. Changes "quality schools" grants to "learning opportunity grants and increases the amount from \$16 to \$74 per student. (H) EDU
- HB 479 (Guess) - Increases minimum expenditure for instruction for schools with over 200 students. (H) EDU

### **Alaska History**

- HB 171 (Kapsner) - 30 House members signed on as co-sponsors. Requires one semester of Alaska History as a graduation requirement. Applies to 9<sup>th</sup> graders in 2003 (class of 2007). (S) HESS

### **School Construction/Major Maintenance**

- HB 451 (James) - Requires municipalities have a comprehensive, computerized maintenance plan before state appropriates municipal bond reimbursement for school construction. (H) HES
- HB 363/SB259 (Governor) - General obligation bond proposal for \$212 m. If approved by voters would fund first 8 on construction list and 81 major maintenance projects. (H) HES, (S) HES
- SB 287/HB 491 (Hoffman, Joule) - General obligation bond proposal for \$352 m. Would fund first 19 on the construction list and every project on the major maintenance list. (S) HES, (H) HES
- HB 495 (Kapsner) - Addresses Kasayulie issues. Eliminates municipal bond reimbursement project and requires all school construction projects to be on the department's priority list to receive state funding. Establishes a State Facilities Financing Authority for funding construction and major maintenance through revenue bonds. (H) HES
- SB 335 (Lincoln) - Addresses Kasayulie issues. Eliminates municipal bond reimbursement project and requires all school construction projects to be on the department's priority list to receive state funding. (S) CRA

### **School District Consolidation**

- HB 452 (Kohring) - Forces consolidation of districts with 100 or fewer students for two consecutive years with another district in that "area" of the state. (H) EDU

### **Teacher Recruitment - Loan Forgiveness**

- HB 293 (Rokeberg) - Creates a separate loan fund within AHFC to provide housing loans to teachers without requiring a down payment. (H) EDU
- HB 43 (Green) - Forgives up to 100% for teaching 5 years in geographically underserved area or subject area shortage. (S) HESS
- HB 416 (Education Committee) - Allows rehire of teachers who retired under a Retirement Incentive Program. (H) EDU
- HB 478 (Guess) - Creates a teacher loan assumption program, up to \$10,000 per teacher. (H) EDU