



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education

Sammy Crawford, President

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M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: January 21, 2008
TO: Members, Board of Education
FROM: Sammy Crawford, President
Board of Education
RE: Resolution 07-08-4

The attached resolution supports changes to NCLB/HR 648 and is requested by the National School Boards Association (NSBA) for the following reasons:

1. School board members throughout the U.S. will converge on Congress the first week in February (including AASB President-Elect Sammy Crawford and current AASB President Scott McAdams from Sitka). Copies of the resolution supporting changes are very effective from local school boards.
2. Many school boards throughout the U.S. believe that some of the current provisions in the law do not recognize the complex factors that influence student performance (especially in Alaska).
3. Increasingly, school boards raise objections regarding the unintended consequences resulting from these provisions. Of major concern is the belief that the current accountability framework does not accurately or fairly assess student, school or school district performance.
4. Waiting until after the Presidential elections of 2008 to revise this law means that changes would not be effective until at least 2010. This could mean another two or three years of an increasingly rising AYP bar and a progression of sanctions that will expand the number of schools as identified as not making the grade as well as the cost of unnecessary dysfunctional actions that schools will be required to implement.

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION 07-08-4
SUPPORTING CHANGES TO NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND/HR 648**

WHEREAS, on January 8, 2002, President Bush signed into law the *No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001*, which applies to all school districts and schools within states that accept federal Title I dollars; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District (KPBSD) Board of Education supports the goals of NCLB of raising student achievement; closing the achievement gap; and ensuring that each child has a highly qualified teacher; and

WHEREAS, the (KPBSD) Board of Education continues to welcome the accountability for improving student and school performance; and

WHEREAS, the (KPBSD) Board of Education has had five years of operational experience in implementing NCLB; and

WHEREAS, the (KPBSD) Board of Education has identified improvements that could be made to NCLB that would eliminate barriers to full implementation of the federal law; and

WHEREAS, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) developed draft legislation based on input from local school boards across the nation that would address the concerns of local school boards, and improve the implementation of NCLB; and

WHEREAS, in April 2006 the NSBA Delegate Assembly re-affirmed its support of federal legislation that is consistent with the NSBA draft legislation; and

WHEREAS, in January 2007 Representative Don Young (R-AK-AL) introduced legislation, the *No Child Left Behind Improvements Act of 2007, H.R. 648*, that is consistent with the NSBA draft legislation, and has strong bipartisan support from the bill's co-sponsors: Representatives Mike Ross (D-AR-4), Thaddeus McCotter (R-MI-11), Charlie Melancon (D-LA-3), Todd Platts (R-PA-19), Steven Rothman (D-NJ-9), and Jo Bonner (R-AL-1); now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the (KPBSD) Board of Education urges Senator Ted Stevens, Senator Lisa Murkowski, and Representative Don Young to fully support H.R. 648 by becoming a co-sponsor of the bill, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the (KPBSD) Board of Education seek the support of local community and civic leaders and appropriate members of the Alaska State Legislature in encouraging Senator Ted Stevens, Senator Lisa Murkowski, and Representative Don Young to become a co-sponsor of H.R. 648, and be it finally

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to members of the Alaska U.S. congressional delegation, the governor, the members of the Alaska State Legislature, local public governing officials, and the State of Alaska Commissioner of Education.

Adopted by the Kenai Peninsula Borough Board of Education on this 4th day of February 2008.

Liz Downing, Vice President
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
Board of Education

ATTEST: _____
Sally Tachick
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires 07/25/09