



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of Superintendent

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March 24, 2014

Senator John Coghill
Senate Judiciary Committee Chair
State Capitol, Room 119
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Coghill:

I am writing on behalf of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District (KPBSD) to express concern for SB176 that if passed, would allow firearms on our university campuses. Each semester Kenai Peninsula College has 100-140 KPBSD students attending one of the its campuses as a part of their high school day. While I understand that SB176 does not allow students to carry a concealed weapon on campus, it would be disconcerting to know that KPBSD students, most of whom are minors, may be attending classes with armed classmates.

The safety and welfare of our students is my number one priority. As such, I am concerned that the movement by my students from a gun free high school to a campus with armed students may offer a situation that is difficult to monitor. Finally, arming college students while they are on campus, and, or, living in the dorm in my opinion creates a volatile situation.

Thank you for considering this comment.

Sincerely,

Steve Atwater, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools