

**University of Alaska Fairbanks
Staff Council**

Resolution 2016-E-2

Approved

April 11, 2016

UAF Staff Council unanimously approved the following resolution via electronic vote on April 11, 2016.

Resolution 2016-E-2 - Approved

A Resolution Supporting the Position of the Associated Students of the University of Alaska Fairbanks (ASUAF) in Their Opposition to State of Alaska Senate Bill 208 (SB 208), ‘An Act eliminating the Alaska education grant program and the Alaska performance scholarship program; and providing for an effective date.’

WHEREAS, UAF Staff Council is the elected representative body of the staff of the University of Alaska Fairbanks; and

WHEREAS, ASUAF is the elected representative body of the students of the University of Alaska Fairbanks; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Senate is currently considering SB 208, which would eliminate both the Alaska education grant program and the Alaska Performance Scholarship Program; and

WHEREAS, ASUAF recently passed a resolution in opposition to SB 208; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Performance Scholarship Program has made higher education accessible for thousands of Alaska students; and

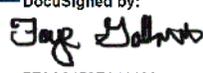
WHEREAS, Staff Council recognizes the central focus of UAF’s mission to “educate students for active citizenship and prepare them for lifelong learning and careers”; and

WHEREAS, Staff Council also supports UAF’s work to “emphasiz[e] the circumpolar North and its diverse peoples”; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that UAF Staff Council stands with ASUAF in their opposition to State of Alaska Senate Bill SB 208, ‘An Act eliminating the Alaska education grant program and the Alaska performance scholarship program; and providing for an effective date.’

(Attachments)

Faye Gallant, President, UAF Staff Council

DocuSigned by:

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April 19, 2016
Date



UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

Associated Students of the University of Alaska Fairbanks

P.O. Box 756640 • Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-6640 • (907) 474-7355 fax: (907) 474-5157

SR 186-005 Opposing Alaska Senate Bill 208

Sponsor: Senator Murph

First considered 4/3/2016

Whereas, The student body of UAF strongly appreciates the Alaska Performance Scholarship and Alaska Education Grant, understanding that these awards are critical for providing education in Alaska, and;

Whereas, The compressed timeline of SB 208 has afforded students little opportunity to testify on the Alaska Performance Scholarship and Alaska Education Grant's importance, raising significant concern, and;

Whereas, The Alaska Performance Scholarship provided assistance to over 3,000 students this year, and;

Whereas, The Alaska Performance Scholarship and Alaska Education Grant provide critical incentives for students to pursue higher education in the state of Alaska, and;

Whereas, Students educated in Alaskan colleges are significantly more likely to stay in the state, strengthening the Alaskan economy and community, and;

Whereas, Ensuring that college graduates remain in Alaska is crucial to establishing the economic strength and diversity that will build Alaska's future, and;

Whereas, Many students would be unable to attend higher education institutions at all without the benefit of the Alaska Performance Scholarship or Alaska Education Grant, now therefore be it;

Resolved, That the student body of UAF strongly opposes Alaska Senate Bill 208, as students believe it will cause significant damage to the vitality of higher education in Alaska and consequently harm the state economy, and be it further;

Resolved, That the student body of UAF affirms the importance of the Alaska Performance Scholarship and Alaska Education Grant to higher education in Alaska.

Statement of Purpose: To oppose Alaska Senate Bill 208 and support the Alaska Performance Scholarship and Alaska Education Grant.

Statement of Fiscal Impact: \$0



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SR 186-005 Opposing Alaska Senate Bill 208

5-0-1

Officiated vote (yes, no, abstention)

April 3, 2016

Date Passed

Clare Mullin (For Schurz)

Jonathan Schurz, ASUAF Senate Clerk

April 6, 2016

Date

Allyssia Garcia

Allyssia Garcia, ASUAF Senate Chair

April 6, 2016

Date

Mathew Carrick

Mathew Carrick, ASUAF President

4/6/16

Date

00 SENATE BILL NO. 208

01 "An Act eliminating the Alaska education grant program and the Alaska performance
02 scholarship program; and providing for an effective date."

03 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

04 * Section 1. AS 14.42.030(e) is amended to read:

05 (e) The commission may

06 (1) adopt regulations under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act)

07 to

08 (A) carry out the purposes of

09 (i) AS 14.43.091 - 14.43.325, 14.43.510 - 14.43.750

10 [AS 14.43.091 - 14.43.849], 14.43.990, AS 14.44, and AS 14.48; and

11 (ii) AS 14.43.910 and 14.43.920 as they relate to the

12 purposes of AS 14.43.091 - 14.43.325, 14.43.510 - 14.43.750

13 [AS 14.43.091 - 14.43.849], 14.43.990, AS 14.44, and AS 14.48;

14 (B) ensure compliance with the requirements imposed by state
01 and federal statutes and regulations governing the guaranty, insurance,

02 purchase, or other dealings in eligible loans by federal agencies,

03 instrumentalities, or corporations; and

04 (C) establish standards for the

05 (i) administration of hearings conducted under

06 AS 14.43.153; and

07 (ii) administrative enforcement of collection orders

08 under AS 14.43.151 - 14.43.155;

09 (2) delegate to the executive director of the commission or a
10 subcommittee of the commission any duty imposed on or power granted to the
11 commission by this chapter, AS 14.43, AS 14.44, or AS 14.48, except its power to
12 adopt regulations and its duty to consider appeals under AS 14.43.100(b) and
13 AS 14.48.120;

14 (3) establish task forces, committees, or subcommittees, not
15 necessarily consisting of commission members, to advise and assist the commission in
16 carrying out its functions;

17 (4) contract with or use existing institutions of postsecondary
18 education or other individuals or organizations to make studies, conduct surveys,
19 submit recommendations, or otherwise contribute to the work of the commission;

20 (5) establish fees for the review of an out-of-state institution that

21 (A) requests approval for participation in the programs under

22 AS 14.43.091 - 14.43.325, 14.43.510 - 14.43.750 [AS 14.43.091 - 14.43.750],
23 14.43.990, and AS 14.44; and

24 (B) is not accredited by a national or regional accreditation
25 association recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation;

26 (6) collect all fees and costs incurred in collection of the amount owed
27 on a loan or repayment obligation if the loan or repayment obligation becomes
28 delinquent or in default; in this paragraph, fees and costs include attorney fees, court
29 costs, and collection fees charged by a collection agency; and

30 (7) if approved by the department, receive and analyze performance
31 data for students in grades kindergarten through 12 and enter into contracts for the
01 purpose of assessing education outcomes.

02 * Sec. 2. AS 14.43.810(a) is amended to read:

03 (a) The Alaska performance scholarship program is established to provide
04 scholarships for students who graduate from high school on or before July 15,
05 2016, [GRADUATES] who are Alaska residents to attend a qualified postsecondary

06 institution in the state.

07 * Sec. 3. AS 14.43.820(a) is amended to read:

08 (a) Subject to appropriation, the commission shall award an Alaska
09 performance scholarship to an applicant who

10 (1) is a resident of the state as defined in AS 01.10.055;

11 (2) graduated or will graduate within six months from a high school in
12 the state;

13 (3) except as provided in (c) of this section, has completed a core
14 academic curriculum of high school level coursework that includes

15 (A) four years of mathematics, four years of language arts, four
16 years of science, and four years of social studies, one year of which may
17 include a foreign language, an Alaska Native language, fine arts, or cultural
18 heritage; or

19 (B) three years of mathematics, four years of language arts,
20 three years of science, four years of social studies, and two years of a foreign
21 language or an Alaska Native language;

22 (4) has a minimum grade-point average in high school of 2.5 or higher;
23 the department shall set by regulation minimum requirements based on a substantially
24 similar standard for districts that do not assign grades;

25 (5) has achieved a minimum score on a

26 (A) college entrance examination; or

27 (B) standardized examination designed to measure a student's
28 level of preparedness to make the transition to work, as selected by the
29 department; [AND]

30 (6) is enrolled in good standing in a course of study at a qualified
31 postsecondary institution in this state that is intended to result in the award of a
01 certificate or degree ; and

02 (7) applies to the commission on or before July 15, 2016 .

03 * Sec. 4. AS 14.43.825(b) is amended to read:

04 (b) A student's eligibility for a scholarship terminates six years after the date
05 the student graduates from high school unless the student qualifies for an extension of
06 time allowed by the department by regulation. The department may not extend a
07 student's eligibility for a scholarship past July 15, 2022.

08 * Sec. 5. AS 14.45.130(a) is amended to read:

09 (a) A religious or other private school that elects to comply with AS 14.45.100
10 - 14.45.130 shall maintain permanent student records reflecting immunizations,
11 physical examinations, standardized testing, academic achievement, and courses taken
12 at the school [, AND LEVEL OF ELIGIBILITY FOR AN ALASKA
13 PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIP UNDER AS 14.43.810 - 14.43.849].

14 * Sec. 6. AS 37.14.750(a) is amended to read:

15 (a) The Alaska higher education investment fund is established in the general
16 fund [FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING GRANTS AWARDED UNDER

17 AS 14.43.400 - 14.43.420 BY APPROPRIATION TO THE ACCOUNT
18 ESTABLISHED UNDER AS 14.43.915(a) AND OF MAKING SCHOLARSHIP

19 PAYMENTS TO QUALIFIED POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS FOR

20 STUDENTS UNDER AS 14.43.810 - 14.43.849 BY APPROPRIATION TO THE

21 ACCOUNT ESTABLISHED UNDER AS 14.43.915(b)]. Money in the fund does not
22 lapse. The fund consists of

23 (1) money appropriated to the fund;

24 (2) income earned on investment of fund assets; and

25 (3) donations to the fund [; AND
26 (4) MONEY REDEPOSITED UNDER AS 14.43.915(c)].
27 * Sec. 7. AS 14.03.113 is repealed July 16, 2016.
28 * Sec. 8. AS 14.43.400, 14.43.405, 14.43.406, 14.43.415, 14.43.420, 14.43.810, 14.43.820,
29 14.43.825, 14.43.830, 14.43.840, 14.43.849, 14.43.915; and AS 37.14.750(c) are repealed
30 July 16, 2022.
31 * Sec. 9. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
01 read:
02 APPLICABILITY. The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education may not
03 award an Alaska performance scholarship under AS 14.43.810 - 14.43.849 to a new applicant
04 who first applies for a scholarship after July 15, 2016.
05 * Sec. 10. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
06 read:
07 TRANSITION: REGULATIONS. The Department of Education and Early
08 Development, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, and the Alaska
09 Commission on Postsecondary Education may adopt regulations necessary to implement
10 changes made to their respective authorities by this Act. The regulations take effect under
11 AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the effective date of the law being
12 implemented.
13 * Sec. 11. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
14 read:
15 RETROACTIVITY. Sections 2 - 4 of this Act are retroactive to July 15, 2016.
16 * Sec. 12. Sections 1, 5, and 6 of this Act take effect July 16, 2022.
17 * Sec. 13. Except as provided in sec. 12 of this Act, this Act takes effect immediately under
18 AS 01.10.070(c).