

Legislative Update



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For immediate release:

Legislative Task Forces Seeks Applicants

SB 221: Scholarships/Legislative Task Forces

SB 221 establishes two (2) Legislative Task Forces.

The first one is a 15 member Joint Legislative Higher Education Scholarship Funding Task Force composed of 10 legislators, 2 executive branch members and 3 public members. The Task Force shall compile research and summarize data regarding remediation, retention and graduation rates in the state. There shall be developed a definition of remediation. The task force shall identify contributing causes for lack of college readiness, and best practices to reduce the need for remediation, and prepare a report to the legislature outlining strategies and recommendations to reduce remediation, improve college readiness, and increase college graduation rates. ***I have been appointed to this Task Force.***

Section 11 establishes a 20 member Advisory Task Force on Higher Education and Career Readiness. Membership will consist of governor/designee; Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education/designee; DEED Commissioner/designee; **a representative of the vocational, technical training or apprenticeship program**; a student representative from the Board of Education; a student member from the University Board of Regents; President of the University/designee; Association of Alaska School Boards/designee; Alaska Association of School Administrators/designee; **National Education Association/designee**; Alaska Federation of Natives/designee; two members from the House of Representatives; two members of the Senate; one member representing a private college or university; **one member representing public postsecondary institutions (not with the University)**; and **three members who have specialized knowledge, skill, or experience in education remediation and who are employed as faculty at postsecondary institutions, at least one reside outside of Anchorage, Fairbanks or Juneau.**

If you are a member of any of the mentioned organizations and would like to serve on this Advisory Task Force, you need to contact Governor Parnell at PO Box 110001, Juneau, AK 99811-0001; his email address is sean.parnell@alaska.gov; and his phone number is (907) 465-3500.

HCR 22: Alaska Northern Waters Task Force

HCR 22 establishes an Alaska Northern Waters Task Force; membership consisting of: (1) two Senators; (2) two Representatives; (3) five public members, three of whom reside in coastal areas of the state; (4) one member from the Executive branch of state government; and (5) one member from the Federal government. The Task Force shall assess and facilitate creation of a state and federal commission responsible for overseeing the development of state and federal northern ocean waters; facilitate regional coordination, cooperation and outreach regarding the creation of the commission to keep local stakeholders informed and to incorporate their input into the process; identify and coordinate efforts of mutual concern for federal, state, and local agencies, as well as international interests in the creation of the communities; and conduct hearings in the Northern region of the state to fulfill its purpose. A preliminary report is due to the Legislature by January 20, 2012.

If you are interested in serving on this Task Force, you need to contact:

Senator Gary Stevens
305 Center Ave., Suite 1
Kodiak, AK 99615
Phone: (907) 486-4925
Fax: (907) 486-5264

or

Representative Mike Chenault
145 Main Street Loop, Room 223
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