



Alaska State Legislature

Office of Senator Löki Gale Tobin

Education Update

This week, the Senate Education committee held hearings on House Bill 69 and took public testimony on the bill. This bill began as an act to increase annual school funding per student by \$1,808 over a three-year period with inflation proofing after the third year, but additional unvetted components were added to HB69 after two days of discussion. Senate Education is ensuring these new additions receive a through vetting. Please take a moment to check out more information about the bill at akleg.gov and submit written public testimony to senate.education@akleg.gov, and you can text HB69 to 555-245-2529 to enroll in text alert updates on the bill.

Session Update

Last week, the members of the State Senate and House heard from Senator Murkowski and Senator Sullivan in their annual addresses to the Legislature. Legislators also disapproved Governor Dunleavy's Executive Order to create a State of Alaska Department of Agriculture. While I fully support local food and Alaska growers, and I voted against the creation of this Department which would not have expanded support for food production or better systems for food security. I look forward to a robust discussion on House Bill 140/Senate Bill 128, the pieces of legislation introduced to establish an Alaskan centric Department of Agriculture.

Personal Legislation

Last week, Senate Bill 60 was heard in House Health and Social Services. This bill will recognize the impact of Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS) on our neighbors and brings awareness to accurate diagnoses. I anticipate this bill moving to the House Floor in the coming weeks. Last Monday in Senate Judiciary, my team presented Senate Joint Resolution 6 which supports the creation of a new state of the US for the residents of Washington DC.

Constituent Engagement Opportunities

The Anchorage Delegation of legislators will be hosting a citywide town hall on April 5th from 2-4pm at the UAA Cuddy Hall. My next *Loop in with Löki* ([the link to register is here](#)) will be on Thursday, April 3rd at 5:45pm via Zoom. If none of these times are accessible to you, please feel free to email or call my office. Sign up for my legislative newsletter at lgtobin.substack.com to stay up-to-date on what is happening in Juneau and sign up for check-ins.

