

Subject: HB 25 and HB60

Dear Representative,

Attached are two resolutions relating to HB25 and HB60 voted on at tonight's meeting. Thank you for taking time to consider our opposition to this legislation.

Barbara Tyndall
District 3 Chair

Resolution Rejecting House Bill 60 March 30, 2021

Whereas this body has passed prior resolutions rejecting embedding mental health workers and resources into Alaskan Schools

Whereas HB 60 is the companion bill to the placement of Alaska Mental Health Trust in the schools and the \$9M grant.

Whereas HB 60 violates Alaskans right to privacy in the Alaska Constitution when it adds language to Sec. 2. AS 14.30.360(a) defining mental health in a program of physical instruction

Whereas HB 60 adds language to Sec. 3. AS 14.30.360(b) adds language, "**Health guidelines must provide standards for instruction in mental health and shall be developed in consultation with the Department of Health and Social Services and representatives of national and state mental health organizations.**"

Whereas health guidelines are made into standards and placed in statute sight unseen; standards are different from guidelines in that they require compliance, and dedicated personnel and budget,

Whereas these standards are not written yet, by entities not yet named, so Alaskans are being asked to adopt unknown standards by unnamed health organizations regarding the mental health of their children,

Whereas these standards may or may not be funded, but will require district time and resources away from academic instruction in material required for an adequate education in Alaskan schools,

Whereas any given district may pursue such standards through their local school boards if they choose, but state mandates erodes local control over education,

Furthermore, the continued pursuit of Mental Health and Social and Emotional standards by violates the constitutionally protected guarantee of privacy of Alaskans enshrined in the Alaska Constitution and goes well beyond anything envisioned as the legislative charge as "adequate" education in the Alaska Constitution,