

What's *Up* with the Legislature in 2020?

Norm Wooten
AASB Executive Director

Steve Nelson
Public Info Coordinator



Legislative Lawsuit

- **Dedicated Funds Clause** (*Article 9, Section 7, Alaska Constitution*)
 - **Constitutional Separation of Powers**
 - **Forward Funding of Education**
 - **One time supplemental funding**
- **Constitutional Questions must necessarily be heard by the Alaska Supreme Court**

Foundation Formula Funding

- 2021 Budget Reductions – Where will they occur?
- Foundation Formula Study (King Economics Group)
 - Ed King – Former Chief Economist, OMB
- Augenblick, Palaich & Associates Legislative Study (2015)
 - Read/download at: aasb.org/study2015

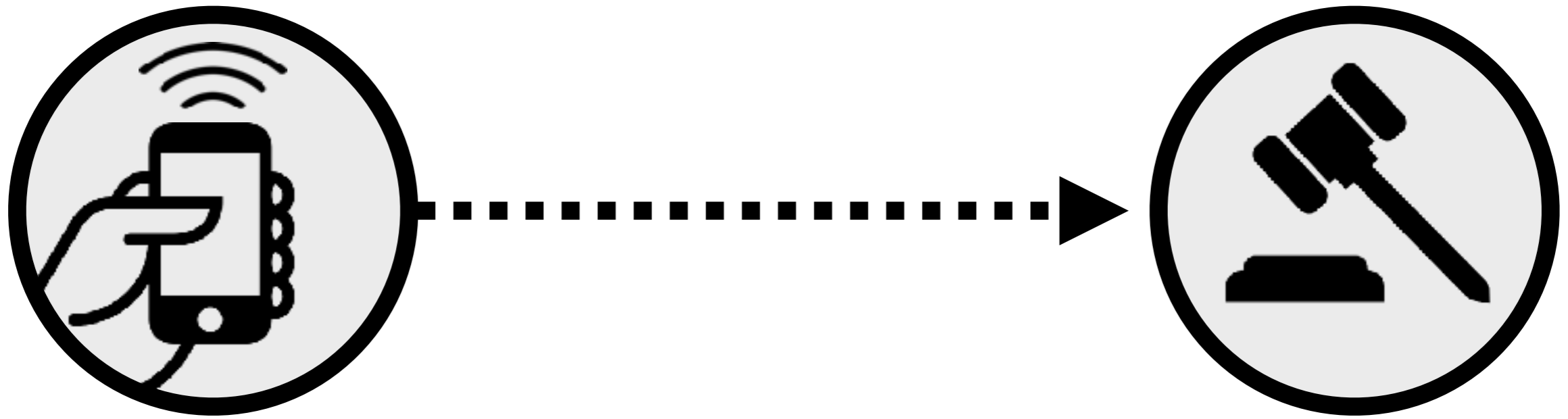
Possible Legislation

- **Bond Debt Reimbursement (50% funded)**
- **REAA/Small School Construction Fund (Kasayulie Settlement)**
- **School District Consolidation – SB 126 (54 to 18)**
- **School Board Term Limits – SB 45**

Distractions

- **Permanent Fund Dividend**
 - Follow the formula or an affordable annual appropriated amount?
- **Recall Proposition**

Testify By Text



- **What is it?**
- **How does it work?**
- **How can it help you?**

Legislative Testimony

Increasing District Participation

**How many of you have ever testified
to the legislature on a bill?**

(in person, by phone, by email)

**How many of you testified on a bill
last session?**

Legislative Testimony

Increasing District Participation

Reasons for low turnout:

- **Takes too much time**
- **Not enough understanding of the issue**
- **Not comfortable speaking publicly
(even on the phone)**
- **Its the Superintendent's job**

**AASB's new system makes testifying
simple, inclusive, and less time consuming!**

Testimony by Text

How it Works



House or Senate schedules a hearing to gather public testimony on a key education-related bill.



AASB sends an ALERT text to your mobile phone (and email) with a link to a brief online survey about the bill.



Participants fill out and submit the survey. Time: 1-2 minutes. Comments are optional, but welcomed. Limit: 200 characters.



AASB collects all participant responses and provides them to the legislature as official testimony on the bill.

Testimony by Text

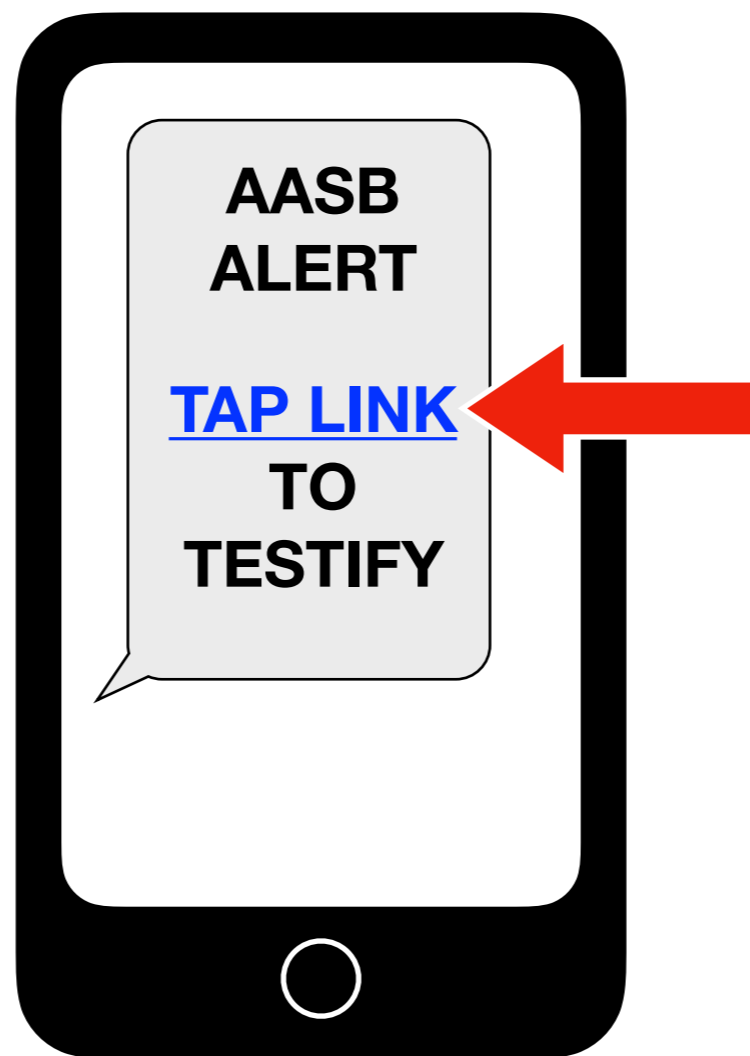
How it Works

AASB sends text ALERT to your phone



1

Tap link to access survey



2

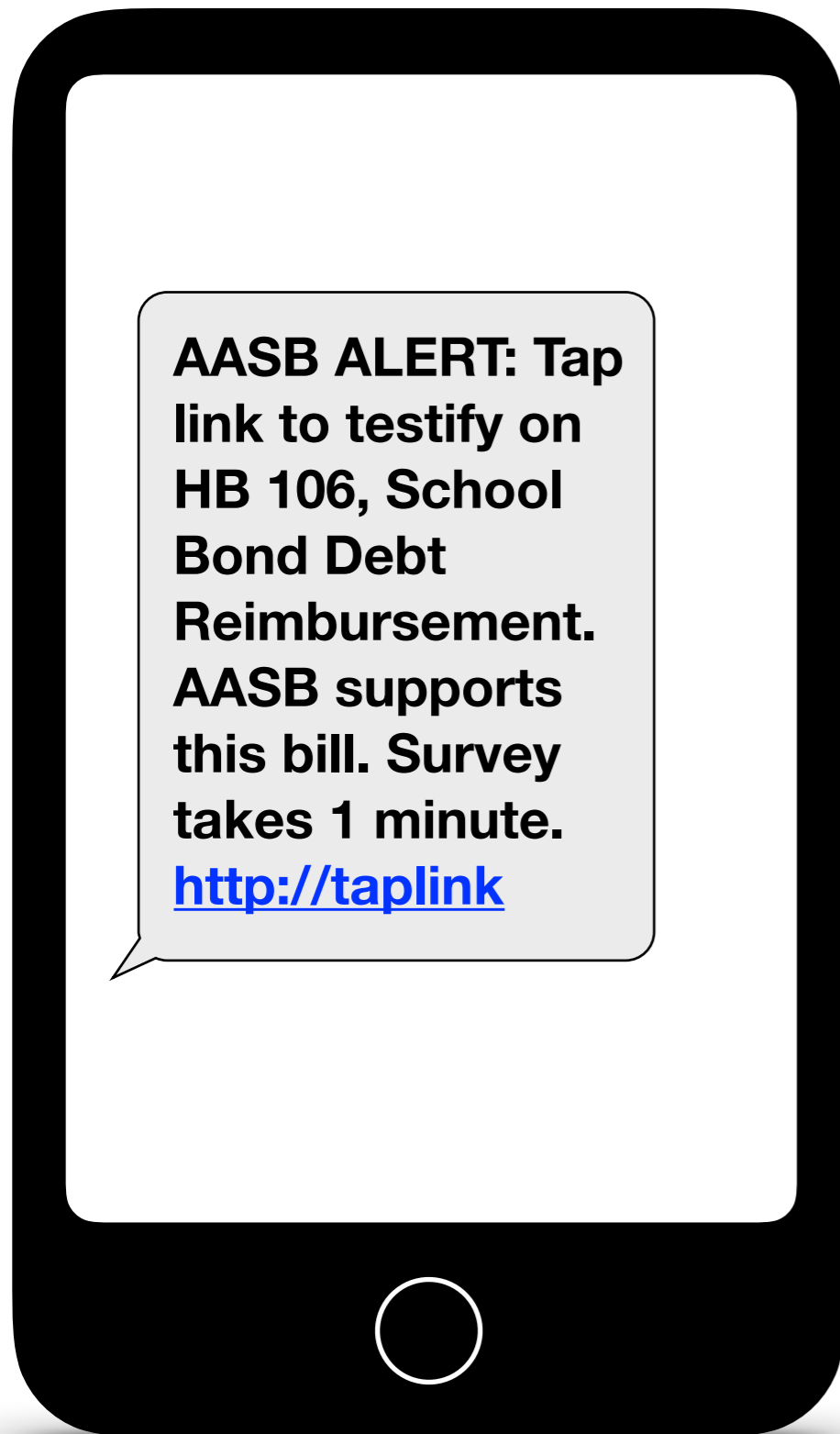
Complete survey, tap Submit



3

Testimony by Text

The Text Message

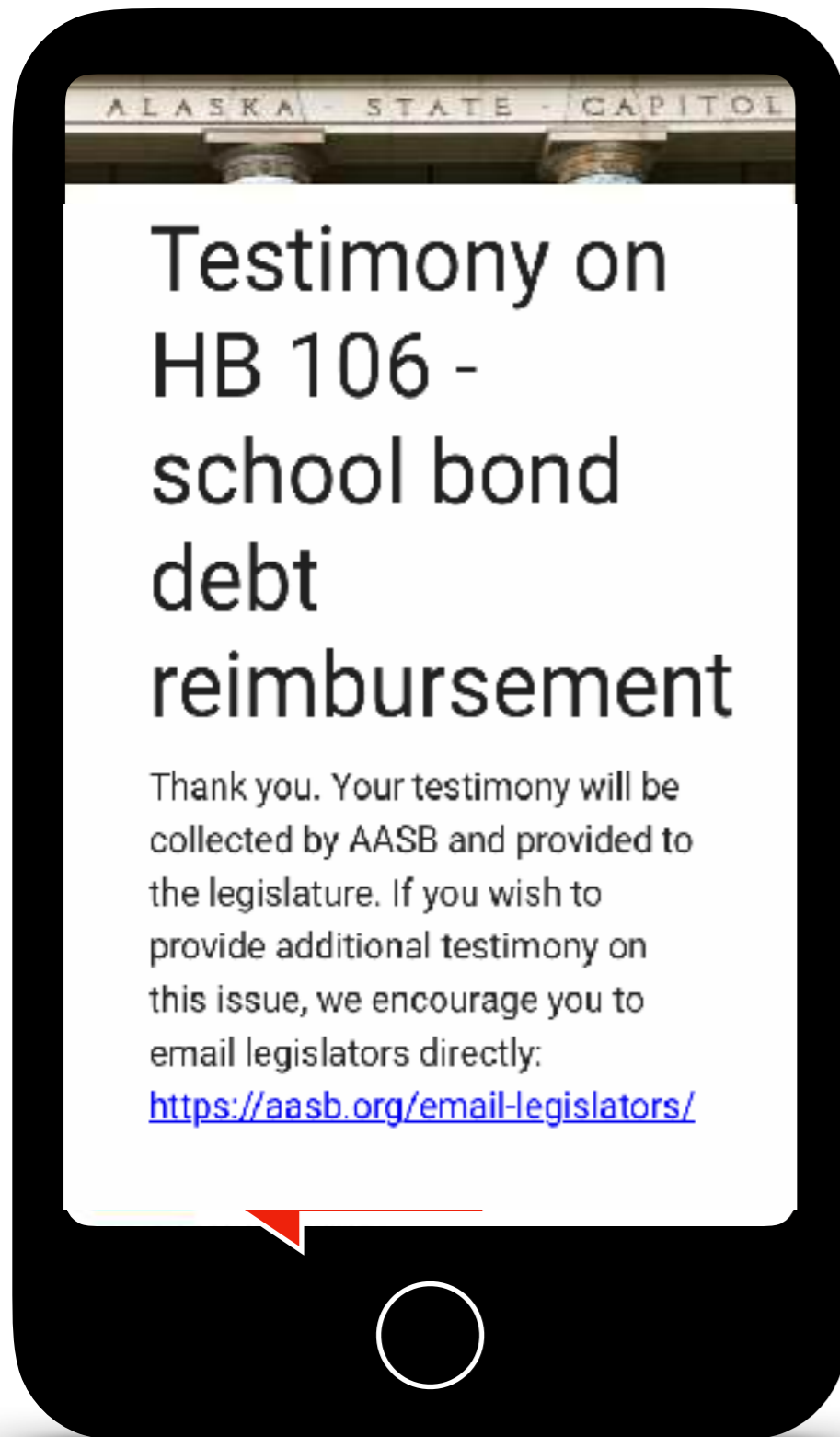


EXAMPLE

**AASB ALERT:
Tap link to testify on HB 106,
School Bond Debt Reimbursement.
AASB supports this bill.
Survey takes 1 minute.**
<http://taplink> ←

Testimony by Text

The Survey Questions



- **Email Address**
- **Name**
- **Title** (*School Board Member or District Superintendent*)
- **District** (*select from dropdown menu*)
- **Testimony** (*I support -or- I do not support*)
- **Comment** (*optional - 200 character limit*)

When the 'Submit' button is clicked, an email link appears on the 'Thank You' screen

Testimony by Text

Submitting Additional Comments

aasb.org/email-legislators

Committees

- House Education (7 members)
- Senate Education (4 members)
- House Finance (11 members)
- Senate Finance (9 members)

House & Senate

- All Representatives (40 members)
- All Senators (20 members)

Legislators

Representatives

- Ben Carpenter (R – Kenai)
- Matt Claman – (D – Anchorage)
- Harriett Drummond (D – Anchorage)
- David Eastman (R – Wasilla)
- Bryce Edgmon (D – Dillingham)

Senators

- Tom Begich – (D – Anchorage)
- Click Bishop (R – Fairbanks)
- John Coghill (R – North Pole)
- Mia Costello (R – Anchorage)
- Cathy Giessel (R – Anchorage)

To: Representative.Harriet.Drummond@akleg.gov - Representative.Andi.Story@akleg.gov - Representative.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov - Representative.Chris.Tuck@akleg.gov - Representative.Tiffany.Zulkosky@akleg.gov - Representative.Josh.Revak@akleg.gov - Representative.DeLena.Johnson@akleg.gov -

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Constituent Comment

From: Steve Nelson - snelson@aasb.org Signature: AASB Gmail

Dear House Education Committee Members,

Legislative Testimony

Increasing District Participation

- **The upcoming session will be critical for K-12**
- **We hope that simplifying the testimony process helps districts be an even more influential force**
- **We urge you to add your voice**
- **There is strength in numbers!**

Thank You!



association of
ALASKA
school boards