

# Demmert resigns education post to teach at Stanford

JUNEAU — Alaska Commissioner of Education William G. Demmert will leave his post Aug. 31 to accept a faculty position at California's Stanford University, according to the Department of Education.

Demmert will teach at Stanford's School of Education and will remain involved in national and international efforts to improve education programs for indigenous peoples. The visiting professorship at Stanford is a one-year appointment.

While Alaska commissioner of education, Demmert has led efforts to improve the general quality of schools. He also has been appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Education to co-chair the Indian Nations at Risk Task

Force.

"Bill Demmert helped Alaska focus on those who most need a quality education system — children just starting school and children on the bottom rung of the economic ladder," said Gov. Steve Cowper.

"His efforts to improve Alaska's early childhood education program and to broaden educational opportunities for Native and other minority children are his legacy as education commissioner.

He also was able to convince parents and many members of Alaska's business community of the importance of an investment in education. That's no small accomplishment," Cowper said.