

Den Nena Henash - Our Land Speaks

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Alarmed at state control in Alaska

To Commissioner William Demmert:

I am totally opposed to this proposed regulation prohibiting corporal punishment in public schools, and I am opposed to any attempt to regulate corporal correction in any private or "denominational" school.

Parents are the God-given authority over their children. If parents in a local community vote to enact this sort of legislation for their public school then so be it.

I am opposed to a state department dictating to a local community whether or not their children may receive corporal correction from their local public school. I am sure that parents who do not want their children corrected physically may simply inform the principal's office and their wishes would be fulfilled.

The regulation proposal to control corporal correction in private schools again preempts the parental authority

over their children.

Any parent who entrusts their children to the non-public sector has already counted the cost for this type of education, and I am quite sure if they are not satisfied with the school policies they could either withdraw the student or as stated above insist that their child be exempted from corporal correction by the school staff.

I am alarmed that this sort of state control would be attempted here in Alaska. Our state was founded by independent men and women who traditionally valued the freedoms the forefathers of the United States bequeathed to its citizens.

I see this type of regulation attempt as an affront to a parent's right to see that his children are raised in the manner that he wishes.

Sincerely,
Howard Echo-Hawk
Delta Junction