



Alaska Association of Student Governments

Resolution #12

SB 4087 Advocacy

Submitted by: Tri-Valley Student Council

Submitted: April 23, 2026

Be it Resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments

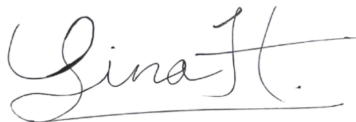
1. **Whereas**, the annual fee for the H-1B visa switched from \$5,000 per person to \$100,000 in September 2025 under Proclamation 10973 issued by the Trump administration;¹
2. **Whereas**, on September 19, 2025, Proclamation 10973 was issued, restricting the entry of certain nonimmigrant workers;
3. **Whereas**, in March 2026, Lisa Murkowski introduced Senate Bill 4087, which seeks to amend Presidential Proclamation 10973 to exempt teachers and other employees hired by public schools or public school districts from this heightened fee;⁴
4. **Whereas**, H-1B visas are generally granted for up to 6 years in 3-year increments;⁶
5. **Whereas**, J-1 visas are the most common alternative to H-1B visas;⁶
6. **Whereas**, J-1 visas are less common in school district hiring as they grant less time in the United States. They are valid for three years, with the possibility of extending for one or two years;⁶
7. **Whereas**, with the shorter validity time, J-1 visas now require certain access to medical care, banking, and transportation, which is hard to get in rural Alaskan communities;²

8. **Whereas**, currently, there are over 900 teacher and staff openings on the job board in Alaska;³
9. **Whereas**, there are currently close to 600 international teachers working in Alaska, with 341 using H-1B visas;³
10. **Whereas**, foreign educators make up over half the staff in some rural districts;³
11. **Whereas**, there were 345 certified teacher openings on the first day of school this year;¹
12. **Whereas**, rural districts may be hit the hardest with the visa changes;¹

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments supports SB 4087.

Action Statement: If passed by the general assembly of AASG, this resolution will be sent to Senator Murkowski, Dan Sullivan, and Nick Begich.

The resolution passes with unanimous consent.



AASG Vice President, Lina Hischer



AASG Executive Director, Cassandra Mirosh

Sources:

1. ---. Alaska's Schools Need Foreign Teachers; Visas Jumped From \$5,000 to \$100,000. www.countryjournal2020.com/2026/03/alaskas-schools-need-foreign-teachers.html#:~:text=The%20Alaska%20House%20of%20Representatives,districts%20in%20recruitment%20and%20hiring.
2. Shopify API. "How Long Does an H1B Visa Last? A 2026 Deep Dive." Law Offices of Peter D. Chu, 25 Feb. 2026, peterchu.com/blogs/medium-feed/how-long-does-h1b-visa-last. Accessed 22 Apr. 2026.
3. Smith, Corinne. "Alaska Lawmakers Push Trump Administration to Waive \$100k Visa Fee for International Teachers." Alaska Public Media, 4 Mar. 2026, alaskapublic.org/news/education/2026-03-04/alaska-lawmakers-push-trump-administration-to-waive-100k-visa-fee-for-international-teachers
4. "US - S4087." BillTrack50, www.billtrack50.com/billdetail/1989144.
5. "Welcome to Zscaler Directory Authentication." Congress.gov, 2026, www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/4087/text/is. Accessed 21 Apr. 2026.
6. "J-1 vs. H-1B Visas: What School Districts Need to Know." Ets.org, 2026, praxis.ets.org/tomorrows-teacher/J1-Visas-vs-H1B-Visas.html. Accessed 23 Apr. 2026.