

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senator Gary Stevens

SPONSOR STATEMENT

SENATE BILL 36 *UA Accreditation Reporting*

Senate Bill 36 is introduced in response to the revocation of accreditation of the University of Alaska-Anchorage School of Education in 2019.

One thought as to how the failure occurred includes the idea that perhaps not enough Alaskans were aware of the problems leading up to it. Establishing a reporting requirement on the subject of UA system-wide accreditation is an effort toward improved communication and awareness, the intent being to help avoid seeing such an unexpected accreditation loss from happening again.

Other reporting requirements have been installed and proven effective for the University of Alaska to maintain clear lines of communication with the Alaska Legislature. Including a biennial report on the status of the UA's accreditations seems timely and appropriate.

Thank you for your consideration of this important policy proposal.