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## ALASKA POLICY FORUM COMMENDS INSTITUTE FOR JUSTICE FOR DEFENDING SCHOOL CHOICE FOR ALASKA'S FAMILIES

Anchorage, Alaska (January 27, 2023) – Yesterday, the Institute for Justice (IJ) <u>teamed</u> with a group of Alaska families to defend the state's Correspondence School Allotment Program (CSAP) against an NEA-funded <u>lawsuit</u> that seeks to end parents' ability to use their correspondence school allotments for private educational services. IJ, a nonprofit public interest law firm, has filed a motion to join the case, to defend Alaska families and the current school choice program. Alaska Policy Forum (APF) is not a party to this legal action, but strongly supports school choice, and commends Institute for Justice (IJ) for standing with Alaskan families.

Alaska's CSAP program was passed by the legislature in 2014. The program helps families enrolled in Alaska's correspondence schools build a customized education plan for the unique learning needs of their children. Under the program, families may be reimbursed for certain educational expenses, including supplies, tutoring, classes at private schools, music or activity lessons, and other items related to their student's education.

"Alaska Policy Forum applauds the Institute for Justice's efforts to defend the rights of families to choose the best education for their child's individual learning needs," said APF Chief Executive Officer, Bethany Marcum. "We also recognize the families that have courageously stepped forward to defend the CSAP program, not only for their own children but for the future of Alaska. We fully support CSAP, and are hopeful the outcome of this case will affirm this critical and innovative program."

Read the Institute for Justice's press release here: <u>https://ij.org/press-release/group-of-parents-to-</u><u>defend-alaska-educational-choice-program-from-lawsuit/</u>

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