EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
Access for All Anchorage Children
THE IDEA

High-Quality Early Childhood Education for All Anchorage Kids
THE PROPOSAL

• Dedicate Anchorage marijuana tax to establish an early childhood education fund.
• Establish an early childhood education commission to oversee the fund & its’ investments.
THE PROPOSAL

- Lower max tax rate to 10%
- Oppose any local marijuana tax increase for 5-years.
CURRENT MARIJUANA TAX

- Current = 5%
- Under tax cap
- Can Increase by 1% annual by assembly vote
- Maximum rate = 12%
THE WHO

A citizen initiative consisting of nonprofits, parents, community leaders, business and government.
THE WHY

• Less than 1/3 kids are kindergarten ready
• Currently, little local investment
• A top issue impacting families today
• Limited Pre-K
THE WHY
• Only 1/4 of Anchorage kids currently served
• Funding is limited
• State subsidies are too low
• Staff retention difficult
• Low wages
• Unaffordable
IMPACT of EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

The Child & Family
- Improves reading
- Increases graduation rates
- Increases earning potential
- Reducing child abuse & neglect
- Builds protective factors
- Reduces poverty
IMPACT of EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

COMMUNITY

• Reduced risk of:
  o Jail
  o Homelessness
  o Substance Misuse
  o Use of public assistance
The earlier the investment, the greater the return

Rate of Return to Investment in Human Capital

- Prenatal programs
- Programs targeted toward the earliest years
- Preschool programs
- Schooling
- Job Training

Prenatal  0-3  4-5  School  Post-School

Source: James Heckman, Nobel Laureate in Economics
IMPACT of EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

EARLY CHILDHOOD INDUSTRY
• Strengthen workforce
• Improves wages & benefits
• Supports mixed delivery system
IMPACT of EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

MARIJUANA INDUSTRY
  • Community Investment
  • Strengthen Industry Reputation
  • Increase Economic Growth
  • Builds Community Relations
IMPACT of EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

ECONOMY

- Strengthens economic development
- Builds future workforce
- Increases home values
- Future cost savings (ROI)
- Attracts businesses & employees
**ALASKA READS ACT**

- Only ASD is eligible for funding
- For 4/5 years old only
- Does not support mix delivery system.
- Does not reach all children.
- Does not address out-of-school time.
BUDGET IMPACT

• Creates a small budget deficit
• Increase in property tax