

Chair Jacobson reports the following:

There has not been an ACPE meeting since our last Board of Regents' meeting (the ACPE normally meets quarterly). The ACPE director did forward a Juneau Empire link to us a week ago pertaining to SJR23. The article indicated that leading members of the House acknowledged they failed to pass an item that seemed to have widespread support. Senator Anna Fairclough was the primary sponsor of SJR23. Her proposal was a constitutional amendment that would have allowed the state to contract General Obligation debt for the purpose of funding postsecondary education loans. This would have resulted in student loans with a lower cost and reduced the denial rate of loan applications. Being a constitutional amendment, it would have gone before voters this fall, had it been adopted. In his post-session talk with reporters, Republican Gov. Sean Parnell also expressed support for the concept. It is anticipated that it will be brought up again