HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 244(FIN) am H

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Amended: 5/6/96
Offered: 5/3/96

Sponsor(s): SENATE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

"An Act relating to transportation of public school students; relating to school construction grants; relating to state foundation aid and supplementary state aid for education; and providing for an effective date."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

* Section 1. AS 14.09.010(b) is amended to read:

(b) Each school district mentioned in (a)(1) of this section is entitled to receive reimbursement from the state for the operation of the transportation system on a unit cost basis determined by the department. In determining an appropriate amount of eligible transportation reimbursement to a school district under this subsection, the department shall review the level of reimbursement for transportation provided on a motor vehicle owned by the school district and for transportation provided on a motor vehicle operated under a contract with the school district.

* Sec. 2. AS 14.11.013(a) is amended to read:

(a) With regard to projects for which grants are requested under AS 14.11.011,
the department shall

(1) annually review the six-year plans submitted by each district under AS 14.11.011(b) and recommend to the board a revised and updated six-year capital improvement project grant schedule that serves the best interests of the state and each district; in recommending projects for this schedule, the department shall verify that each proposed project meets the criteria established under AS 14.11.014(b) and qualifies as a project required to

(A) avert imminent danger or correct life-threatening situations;

(B) house students who would otherwise be unhoused; for purposes of this subparagraph, students are considered unhoused if the students attend school in temporary facilities;

(C) protect the structure of existing school facilities;

(D) correct building code deficiencies that require major repair or rehabilitation in order for the facility to continue to be used for the educational program;

(E) achieve an operating cost savings;

(F) modify or rehabilitate facilities for the purpose of improving the instructional program;

(G) meet an educational need not specified in (A) - (F) of this paragraph, identified by the department;

(2) prepare an estimate of the amount of money needed to finance each project;

(3) provide to the governor, by November 1, and to the legislature within the first 10 days of each regular legislative session, a revised and updated six-year capital improvement project grant schedule, together with a proposed schedule of appropriations.

* Sec. 3. AS 14.17.021 is repealed and reenacted to read:

Sec. 14.17.021. STATE FOUNDATION AID. (a) Beginning July 1, 1995, the amount of state foundation aid for which a city or borough school district may qualify in a fiscal year is calculated by subtracting from the basic need defined in (c) of this section the required local contributions under AS 14.17.025(a) and 90 percent
of eligible federal impact aid for that fiscal year.

(b) Beginning July 1, 1995, the amount of state foundation aid for which a regional educational attendance area may qualify in a fiscal year is calculated by subtracting from the basic need defined in (c) of this section 96 percent of eligible federal impact aid for that fiscal year.

(c) The basic need of a school district is determined by multiplying the area cost differential of the district under AS 14.17.051 by the number of instructional units in the district under AS 14.17.031 and then multiplying that product by the instructional unit value in AS 14.17.056.

(d) The department may make adjustments to a district's state foundation aid for a fiscal year to correct underpayments made in previous fiscal years.

* Sec. 4. AS 14.17 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 14.17.026. SUPPLEMENTARY STATE AID FOR REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL ATTENDANCE AREAS. Beginning July 1, 1995, in addition to the state foundation aid for which a regional educational attendance area may qualify under AS 14.17.021(b), a regional educational attendance area may qualify for supplementary state aid. The amount of supplementary state aid for which a regional educational attendance area may qualify in a fiscal year is calculated by multiplying the area cost differential of the regional educational attendance area under AS 14.17.051 by the number of instructional units in the regional educational attendance area determined under AS 14.17.031 and then multiplying that product by a unit allotment of $500.

* Sec. 5. TRANSITION. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Act, if, for fiscal year 1996, a city or borough school district or a regional educational attendance area would receive less foundation aid under this Act than the city or borough school district or regional educational attendance area would have received under AS 14.17 without enactment of this Act, the school district or attendance area is eligible to receive foundation aid for fiscal year 1996 equal to the amount that would have been received under AS 14.17 without the enactment of this Act.

* Sec. 6. Sections 3 - 5 of this Act are retroactive to July 1, 1995.

* Sec. 7. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).