AN ACT

Relating to funding for school districts operating statewide residential educational programs; and providing for an effective date.

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

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1
AN ACT

Relating to funding for school districts operating statewide residential educational programs; and providing for an effective date.

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* Section 1. AS 14.16 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Article 2. School Districts Operating Statewide Residential Educational Programs.

Sec. 14.16.200. State funding for districts operating statewide residential educational programs. (a) A district that, before January 1, 2005, began operating a statewide residential educational program for students in grades nine through 12 that has been approved by the department under regulations adopted by the board is eligible to receive reimbursement for the costs incurred by the district in operating that program. To be eligible for reimbursement for costs, the district-operated statewide residential educational program must provide a suitable student dormitory and daily access to a public school offering the appropriate grade level.

(b) Costs that may be claimed by a district for reimbursement under (a) of this
section are

(1) one round trip on the least expensive means of transportation between the student's community of residence and the school during the school year if the district expends money for the trip; and

(2) a per-pupil monthly stipend to cover room and board expenses as determined by the department on a regional basis and not to exceed the following amounts:

(A) for the Southeast Region (Region I), $410;
(B) for the Southcentral Region (Region II), $400;
(C) for the Interior Region (Region III), $484;
(D) for the Southwest Region (Region IV), $503;
(E) for the Northern Remote Region (Region V), $592.

(c) In this section,

(1) "district" has the meaning given in AS 14.17.990;
(2) "district-operated statewide residential educational program" means a public school operated by a school district for students in grades nine through 12 that provides education, room, and board for a full school year without regard to the student's district of residence.

* Sec. 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 2006.