

Alaska State Legislature

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Senator Bettye Davis

Senate Bill 101, 26-LS0524\A

"An Act relating to questionnaires and surveys administered in the public schools."

Sectional Summary

Note: this sectional summary should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill, as the bill itself is the best statement of its contents.

Section 1. Amends AS 14.03.110(a) to require a school district to obtain written permission to administer a questionnaire or survey, anonymous or not, with the exception of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, as provided in Section 4 in new subsection AS 14.03.110(g).

Section 2. Repeals and reenacts AS 14.03.110(d) to require a school district provide to a student's parent or legal guardian written notice of a questionnaire or survey with detailed information as to the date, contents, sponsor, contacts at the school district, opportunity to review the questionnaire or survey, description of how to submit written permission or denial of permission to participate, including an anonymous or specific questionnaire or survey.

Section 3. Amends AS 14.03.110(e) to allow a student to participate but to refuse to "answer specific questions." Subsection (e) also requires that a parent or legal guardian may refuse to allow the student to participate in a specific questionnaire or survey "by submitting to the teacher or school principal a written denial of permission for the student's participation."

Section 4. Adds a new subsection AS 14.03.110(g) which provides that if a school district administers the Youth Risk Behavior Survey provided by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, written permission of the student's parent or legal guardian is not required, but the school district shall provide parents notice of the survey and the opportunity to submit to the teacher or school principal a written denial of permission to take the survey.

Note: Subsections AS 14.03.110(b) and (c) remain unchanged as to annual permission and two weeks notice for anonymous surveys under (b), and written permission and two weeks notice for surveys which are not anonymous under (c).