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**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 206(EDC)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Offered:  
Referred:

Sponsor(s): HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act establishing a career assessment requirement in public schools; relating to  
2 postsecondary courses for secondary school students; and relating to student counts for  
3 school funding purposes."

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

5 \* **Section 1.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding new sections to read:

6 **Sec. 14.03.073. Secondary student career assessment.** (a) Each school  
7 district in the state shall require students in grade 12 to complete a career preparedness  
8 assessment as described in (b) of this section.

9 (b) The commissioner shall select for use in the state an assessment designed  
10 to measure a student's level of preparedness to make the transition to work or college.  
11 The assessment must assess a student's career aptitude and readiness for postsecondary  
12 education or training in the areas of

- 13 (1) applied mathematics;  
14 (2) reading for information; and

(3) locating information.

(c) Subject to the availability of appropriations, the department shall

(1) obtain a license that enables school districts to administer the assessment described in (b) of this section with no charge assessed to the district by the vendor of the assessment;

(2) provide districts with training and support in administering the assessment; and

(3) provide a report to each student on the results of the student's assessment, based on nationally recognized criteria for evaluating a student's preparedness to make the transition to work or college.

(d) The results of a student's career preparedness assessment shall be displayed in summary form on the student's high school diploma.

**Sec. 14.03.074. Secondary student enrollment in postsecondary institution.**

(a) A secondary student who passes all portions of the examination required under AS 14.03.075 may enroll in a postsecondary institution in the state that is approved by the commissioner if

(1) the student is enrolled in a public secondary school in the state;

(2) the student is otherwise eligible to enroll, as determined by the postsecondary institution; and

(3) the postsecondary courses will be completed before the student's graduation from secondary school.

(b) The school district in which the student is enrolled in secondary school shall make arrangement for the fees for the appropriate postsecondary courses in which the student enrolls under this section.

\* **Sec. 2.** AS 14.17.500(a) is amended to read:

(a) A district shall prepare and submit to the department by **March 15** [NOVEMBER 5] of each fiscal year, in the manner and on forms prescribed by the department, an estimate of its ADM and other student count data, including per school student count data, for the **current and** succeeding fiscal year upon which computations can be made to estimate the amount of state aid for which the district may be eligible under AS 14.17.400 in the succeeding fiscal year. In making its report,

the district shall consider its ADM, other student count data, the pattern of growth or decline of the student population in preceding years, and other pertinent information available to the district.

\* **Sec. 3.** AS 14.17.600(a) is amended to read:

(a) Within two weeks after the end of each of the 20-school-day periods [PERIOD] ending the fourth Friday in October and the last Friday in February, each district shall transmit a report to the department that, under regulations adopted by the department, reports its ADM for that counting period, the average ADM over the two consecutive counting periods for the previous fiscal year, and, for the February report and October report, the current year, and other student count information that will aid the department in making a determination of its state aid under the public school funding program. [FOR CENTRALIZED CORRESPONDENCE STUDY, THE OCTOBER REPORT SHALL BE BASED ON THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1 THROUGH THE FOURTH FRIDAY IN OCTOBER.] The department may make necessary corrections in the report submitted and shall notify the district of changes made. The commissioner shall notify the governor of additional appropriations the commissioner estimates to be necessary to fully finance the public school funding program for the current fiscal year.

\* **Sec. 4.** AS 14.17.610(a) is amended to read:

(a) Except as provided in (d) of this section, the [THE] department shall determine the state aid for each school district in a fiscal year on the basis of the district's averaged student count for the October and February counting periods [DATA] reported under AS 14.17.600 for the preceding and current fiscal years. On or before the 15th day of each of the first nine months of each fiscal year, one-twelfth of each district's state aid shall be distributed on the basis of the [DATA REPORTED FOR THE] preceding fiscal year entitlement. On or before the 15th day of each of the last three months of each fiscal year, one-third of the balance of each district's state aid shall be distributed, after the balance has been recomputed under (d) of this section [ON THE BASIS OF STUDENT COUNT AND OTHER DATA REPORTED FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR].

\* **Sec. 5.** AS 14.17.610 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

1 (d) If the averaged student count made and reported by a district under  
2 AS 14.17.600 for the current year is higher than the averaged count made under that  
3 section for the preceding fiscal year, the department shall recompute the state aid,  
4 including per school student count data, to adjust for the higher average student count,  
5 and the higher average count shall be used for the student count for the current year  
6 and for the estimates made for the succeeding fiscal year under AS 14.17.500. The  
7 February student count must be submitted to the department by March 15 of the  
8 current year for a recomputation to be made under this subsection.

9 \* **Sec. 6.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
10 read:

11 TRANSITION. In the first school year following the effective date of this Act, the  
12 student count completed in the immediately preceding school year shall be used as the  
13 average student count under AS 14.17.610(a) and (d), as amended and added by secs. 4 and 5  
14 of this Act, as though two student count periods had occurred for that year and added.