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**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 206( )**  
**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**  
**TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION**

**BY**

**Offered:**  
**Referred:**

**Sponsor(s): HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act establishing a career assessment requirement in public schools; and relating to**  
2 **secondary school competency testing."**

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

4 **\* Section 1.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

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

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

- 12 (1) applied mathematics;  
13 (2) reading for information; and  
14 (3) locating information.

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

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

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

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

10 (4) provide to the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education  
11 information needed to determine a student's eligibility for financial assistance.

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

14 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 14.03.075 is repealed and reenacted to read:

15 **Sec. 14.03.075. Secondary student competency testing.** (a) Each public  
16 secondary school in the state shall require students to take a competency examination  
17 in the areas of reading, English, and mathematics. The department shall determine the  
18 timing, form, and contents of the examination and shall score completed examinations.  
19 The contents of the examination must conform to state performance standards and  
20 measure college readiness. The results of the competency testing shall be included in  
21 the student's transcript.

22 (b) A student who fails the examination required under this section shall be  
23 retested at least once during a school year on those portions of the examination that the  
24 student has not passed. A student who passes any portion of the test may not retake  
25 that portion of the test. This subsection does not apply to a student who is a child with  
26 a disability if the student's individualized education program team recommends that  
27 the student not be retested.

28 (c) A student who is a child with a disability and who does not achieve a  
29 passing score on the examination required under (a) of this section, with or without  
30 accommodation, may complete an alternative assessment program required by the  
31 student's individualized education program or required in the education plan

1 developed for the student under 29 U.S.C. 794. An alternative assessment program  
2 must, to the maximum extent possible, conform to state performance standards  
3 established for the competency examination required under (a) of this section. This  
4 subsection does not apply to a student unless the department determines that the  
5 student has taken and failed to pass the competency examination with or without  
6 accommodations and the department approves the student's alternative assessment  
7 program described under this subsection.

8 (d) The department shall by regulation establish uniform standards for

9 (1) pre-examination study materials; and

10 (2) procedures to be followed during administration of an examination.

11 (e) The department shall by regulation establish uniform standards for an  
12 alternative assessment program required under (c) of this section. The alternative  
13 assessment program required under (c) of this section applicable to an individual  
14 student may not be changed after February 1 of the student's junior year of study.

15 (f) In this section,

16 (1) "child with a disability" has the meaning given in AS 14.30.350;

17 (2) "individualized education program team" means a group of people  
18 that translates child assessment information regarding a child into a practical plan for  
19 specially designed instruction and delivery of services for the child, consisting of the  
20 persons necessary to qualify the team under appropriate federal regulations applicable  
21 to a child with a disability who is eligible for special education services under  
22 AS 14.30.

23 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 14.03.120(d) is amended to read:

24 (d) Annually, before the date set by the district under (e) of this section, each  
25 public school shall deliver to the department for posting on the department's Internet  
26 website and provide, in a public meeting of parents, students, and community  
27 members, a report on the school's performance and the performance of the school's  
28 students. The report shall be prepared on a form prescribed by the department and  
29 must include

30 (1) information on accreditation;

31 (2) results of norm-referenced achievement tests;

(3) results of state standards-based assessments in reading, writing, and mathematics;

(4) a description, including quantitative and qualitative measures, of student, parent, community, and business involvement in student learning;

(5) a description of the school's attendance, retention, dropout, and graduation rates, [INCLUDING THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED A DIPLOMA UNDER A WAIVER FROM THE COMPETENCY EXAMINATION REQUIRED UNDER AS 14.03.075(a),] as specified by the state board;

(6) the annual percent of enrollment change, regardless of reason, and the annual percent of enrollment change due to student transfers into and out of the school district;

(7) if Native language education is provided, a summary and evaluation of the curriculum described in AS 14.30.420;

(8) the number and percentage of students in each school who take and who successfully complete an alternative assessment program in reading, English, or mathematics; and the number and percentage of pupils in each school who successfully complete the alternative assessment program but who do not reach the state performance standards at the competency exam level in reading, English, or mathematics; a school may not report results under this paragraph unless the school complies with the family educational rights and privacy requirements of 34 C.F.R. 99;

(9) the performance designation assigned the school under AS 14.03.123 and the methodology used to assign the performance designation, including the measures used and their relative weights; and

(10) other information concerning school performance and the performance of the school's students as required by the state board in regulation.

\* **Sec. 4.** AS 14.07.165 is amended to read:

**Sec. 14.07.165. Duties.** The board shall adopt

(1) statewide goals and require each governing body to adopt written goals that are consistent with local needs;

(2) regulations regarding the application for and award of grants under

1 AS 14.03.125;

2 (3) regulations implementing provisions of AS 14.11.014(b);

3 (4) regulations requiring approval by the board before a charter school,  
4 state boarding school, or a public school may provide domiciliary services;

5 (5) regulations implementing the secondary school student competency  
6 examination provisions of AS 14.03.075 [, INCLUDING THE CRITERIA AND  
7 PROCEDURE UNDER WHICH A GOVERNING BODY USES A WAIVER TO  
8 GRANT A DIPLOMA TO A STUDENT; CRITERIA REGARDING GRANTING A  
9 WAIVER MUST INCLUDE PROVISIONS THAT A WAIVER MAY ONLY BE  
10 GRANTED FOR STUDENTS WHO ENTER THE SYSTEM LATE OR HAVE  
11 RARE OR UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES MERITING A WAIVER].