

**SENATE BILL NO. 6**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATORS DAVIS AND FRENCH, Olson, Kookesh, Ellis

Introduced: 1/19/11

Referred: Education, Finance

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1    **"An Act relating to providing a prekindergarten program within a school district; and**  
2    **providing for an effective date."**

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

4        \* **Section 1.** AS 14.03.060(a) is amended to read:

5               (a) Except as provided in (e) of this section, an elementary school consists of  
6               grades kindergarten through grade eight or any appropriate combination of grades  
7               within this range, **and a prekindergarten program provided by a school district**  
8               **for students four and five years of age.**

9        \* **Sec. 2.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10               **Sec. 14.03.065. Prekindergarten program.** A prekindergarten program  
11               provided by a school district must

12                       (1) be optional;

13                       (2) be for a child four or five years of age who resides in the district;

14               and

(3) be funded under AS 14.17.905(a) and (c).

\* **Sec. 3.** AS 14.03.080 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(g) A child who is four or five years of age on or before September 1 following the beginning of the school year and who is under school age may enter a public school prekindergarten program.

\* **Sec. 4.** AS 14.07.020(c) is amended to read:

(c) In this section, "pre-elementary school" means a school for children [AGES] three through five years of age if the school's primary function is educational, and a prekindergarten program for children four or five years of age that is provided by a school district.

\* **Sec. 5.** 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 AS 14.03.125;

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

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

(5) regulations implementing the secondary school student competency examination provisions of AS 14.03.075, including the criteria and procedure under which a governing body uses a waiver to grant a diploma to a student; criteria regarding granting a waiver must include provisions that a waiver may only be granted for students who enter the system late or have rare or unusual circumstances meriting a waiver;

(6) regulations for the implementation of a prekindergarten program by a school district using the model curriculum developed by the department under AS 14.07.030(13).

\* **Sec. 6.** AS 14.17.905(a) is amended to read:

(a) For purposes of this chapter, the determination of the number of schools in a district is subject to the following:

1 (1) a community with an ADM of at least 10, but not more than 100,  
2 shall be counted as one school;

3 (2) a community with an ADM of at least 101, but not more than 425,  
4 shall be counted as

5 (A) one elementary school, which includes those students in  
6 grades kindergarten through six, and, except as provided in (c) of this  
7 section, a prekindergarten program provided by a school district for  
8 students four and five years of age; and

9 (B) one secondary school, which includes students in grades  
10 seven through 12;

11 (3) in a community with an ADM of greater than 425, each facility that  
12 is administered as a separate school shall be counted as one school, except that each  
13 alternative school with an ADM of less than 175 shall be counted as a part of the  
14 school in the district with the highest ADM.

15 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 14.17.905 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

16 (c) A school district may not include in the average daily membership of a  
17 school students who are four or five years of age if the students are enrolled in a  
18 program that receives funding other than funding under this section.

19 \* **Sec. 8.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2013.