

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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REPRESENTATIVE PETE HIGGINS

SPONSOR STATEMENT

“An Act repealing the secondary student competency examination and related requirements; and providing for an effective date”

CS HB 220 is up for consideration this session. This legislation repeals the secondary student competency examination and related reporting requirements for these exams as required by AS.14.03.075 and AS 14.07.165(5).

The repeal of High School Qualifying Exam (HSGQE) or “Exit Exam” is a step forward in the process to reform our Alaska education system. This hurdle was created to measure student achievement followed by federal pressure created with No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

This legislation equates to a savings of approximately 2.7 million for the State of Alaska that can be put to better use for the education of our children.

To continue to fund these exams no longer makes fiscal sense for our state and most importantly for our children.

The Committee Substitute for HB 220 28-LS0947\ U Inserts the language
TRANSITION: STUDENT TESTING IN PROGRESS.

Until June 30, 2017, a school district shall continue to administer the competency examination for a student who seeks to qualify for a secondary school diploma.

This provides fairness for students who are in transition.