

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 220(FIN)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered:  
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES HIGGINS, MILLETT, GARA, GATTIS, TAMMIE WILSON, AND THOMPSON, Peggy Wilson, Kawasaki, Seaton, Tarr, Holmes

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act repealing the secondary student competency examination and related  
2 requirements; and providing for an effective date."

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

4 \* **Section 1.** AS 14.03.078 is amended to read:

5 **Sec. 14.03.078. Report.** The department shall provide to the legislature by  
6 February 15 of each year an annual report regarding the progress of each school and  
7 school district toward high academic performance by all students. The report required  
8 under this section must include

9 (1) information described under AS 14.03.120(d);

10 (2) [THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS IN  
11 EACH SCHOOL WHO PASS THE EXAMINATION REQUIRED UNDER  
12 AS 14.03.075, AND THE NUMBER WHO PASS EACH SECTION OF THE  
13 EXAMINATION;

14 (3)] progress of the department

1 (A) toward implementing the school accountability provisions  
2 of AS 14.03.123; and

3 (B) in assisting high schools to become accredited;

4 (3) [(4)] a description of the resources provided to each school and  
5 school district for coordinated school improvement activities and staff training in each  
6 school and school district;

7 (4) [(5)] each school district's and each school's progress in aligning  
8 curriculum with state education performance standards;

9 (5) [(6)] a description of the efforts by the department to assist a public  
10 school that receives a designation of deficient or in crisis;

11 (6) [(7)] a description of intervention efforts by each school district  
12 and school for students who are not meeting state performance standards;

13 (7) [(8)] the number and percentage of turnover in certificated  
14 personnel and superintendents;

15 (8) [(9)] the number of teachers by district and by school who are  
16 teaching outside the teacher's area of endorsement [BUT IN AREAS TESTED BY  
17 THE HIGH SCHOOL COMPETENCY EXAMINATION].

18 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 14.03.120(d) is amended to read:

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

25 (1) information on accreditation;

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

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

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

31 (5) a description of the school's attendance, retention, dropout, and

1 graduation rates, [INCLUDING THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF  
2 STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED A DIPLOMA UNDER A WAIVER FROM THE  
3 COMPETENCY EXAMINATION REQUIRED UNDER AS 14.03.075(a),] as  
4 specified by the state board;

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

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

10 (8) [THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS IN  
11 EACH SCHOOL WHO TAKE AND WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AN  
12 ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM IN READING, ENGLISH, OR  
13 MATHEMATICS; AND THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF PUPILS IN  
14 EACH SCHOOL WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE ALTERNATIVE  
15 ASSESSMENT PROGRAM BUT WHO DO NOT REACH THE STATE  
16 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AT THE COMPETENCY EXAM LEVEL IN  
17 READING, ENGLISH, OR MATHEMATICS; A SCHOOL MAY NOT REPORT  
18 RESULTS UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH UNLESS THE SCHOOL COMPLIES  
19 WITH THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY  
20 REQUIREMENTS OF 34 C.F.R. 99;

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

24 (9) [(10)] other information concerning school performance and the  
25 performance of the school's students as required by the state board in regulation.

26 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 14.03.123(f) is amended to read:

27 (f) In the accountability system for schools and districts required by this  
28 section, the department shall

29 (1) implement 20 U.S.C. 6301 - 7941 (Elementary and Secondary  
30 Education Act of 1965), as amended;

31 (2) implement state criteria and priorities for accountability including

1 the use of

2 (A) measures of student performance on standards-based  
3 assessments in reading, writing, and mathematics [, AND INCLUDING  
4 COMPETENCY TESTS REQUIRED UNDER AS 14.03.075];

5 (B) measures of student improvement; and

6 (C) other measures identified that are indicators of student  
7 success and achievement; and

8 (3) to the extent practicable, minimize the administrative burden on  
9 districts.

10 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 14.03.255(a) is amended to read:

11 (a) A charter school operates as a school in the local school district except that  
12 the charter school (1) is exempt from the local school district's textbook, program,  
13 curriculum, and scheduling requirements; (2) is exempt from AS 14.14.130(c); the  
14 principal of the charter school shall be selected by the academic policy committee and  
15 shall select, appoint, or otherwise supervise employees of the charter school; and (3)  
16 operates under the charter school's annual program budget as set out in the contract  
17 between the local school board and the charter school under (c) of this section. A local  
18 school board may exempt a charter school from other local school district  
19 requirements if the exemption is set out in the contract. A charter school is subject to  
20 [SECONDARY SCHOOL COMPETENCY TESTING AS PROVIDED IN  
21 AS 14.03.075 AND OTHER] competency tests required by the department.

22 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 14.03.075 and AS 14.07.165(5) are repealed.

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

25 **RETROSPECTIVE ISSUANCE OF A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.** (a) At the  
26 request of a student made by June 30, 2017, a school district shall issue a high school diploma  
27 to a student who did not receive a high school diploma because the student failed to pass all or  
28 a portion of the secondary school competency examination but who received a certificate of  
29 achievement under former AS 14.03.075. A school district shall mail a notice consistent with  
30 this section to each student who qualifies for a diploma under this section to the student's last  
31 known address.

1 (b) The Department of Education and Early Development shall post a notice  
2 consistent with this section on the department's Internet website with information about how  
3 to request a high school diploma.

4 (c) In this section, "school district" has the meaning given in AS 14.30.350.

5 \* **Sec. 7.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).