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Mischel
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CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 151()
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES REINBOLD, LeDoux, Olson, Keller, Higgins

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act establishing a public school and school district grading system for purposes of**
2 **improving accountability and transparency; providing for Alaska strategic educators in**
3 **public schools; and providing for an effective date."**

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

5 *** Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
6 to read:

7 **SHORT TITLE.** This Act may be known as the Parental Education Information Act.

8 *** Sec. 2.** AS 14.03.123(a) is amended to read:

9 (a) By September 1 of each year, the department shall assign a performance
10 designation to each public school, including charter schools and boarding schools,
11 to each [AND] school district, and to the state public school system in accordance
12 with (f) of this section and AS 14.03.124.

13 *** Sec. 3.** AS 14.03.123(c) is amended to read:

14 (c) The state board shall adopt regulations implementing this section,

1 providing for a statewide student assessment system, and providing for the process of
2 assigning a designation under (a) of this section, including

3 (1) the method [METHODOLOGY] used to assign the performance
4 designation, including the measures used and their relative weights;

5 (2) high performance and low performance designations that are based
6 on the accountability system under this section and AS 14.03.124;

7 (3) a procedure for appealing a designation that may be used by the
8 principal of a public school or by the superintendent of a public school district;

9 (4) additional measures that may be progressively implemented by the
10 commissioner to assist schools or districts to improve performance in accordance with
11 this section and with federal law; to the extent necessary to conform to federal law, the
12 additional measures may be unique to a certain school or district if that school or
13 district receives federal funding that is not available to all schools or districts in the
14 state.

15 * Sec. 4. AS 14.03.123(f) is amended to read:

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

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

20 (2) implement state criteria and priorities for accountability including
21 the use of

22 (A) measures of student performance on statewide standards-
23 based assessments at intervals established by the department consistent
24 with federal and state law in reading, writing, [AND] mathematics, and
25 science, and the results of [INCLUDING] competency tests required under
26 AS 14.03.075;

27 (B) measures of student improvement; and

28 (C) indicators of school progress, including

29 (i) a comparison of available data on student
30 performance over sequential years in each grade level at each
31 school;

1 (ii) gains in individual student learning for the
 2 lowest performing 25 percent of students [OTHER MEASURES
 3 IDENTIFIED THAT ARE INDICATORS OF STUDENT SUCCESS
 4 AND ACHIEVEMENT]; and

5 (3) to the extent practicable, minimize the administrative burden on
 6 districts.

7 * **Sec. 5.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

8 **Sec. 14.03.124. Public school and school district grading system.** (a) Except
 9 as provided in (d) of this section, the department shall annually assign to each public
 10 school, including charter schools and boarding schools, and to each school district a
 11 performance designation as provided under this section for the purpose of improving
 12 accountability and transparency of public school progress in the state. The
 13 performance designation shall be based on the accountability system established under
 14 AS 14.03.123(f) and the measurements provided in this section.

15 (b) The department shall establish by regulation the criteria that accounts for
 16 improvement in student achievement for assigning annual performance designations as
 17 follows:

- 18 (1) "A" for a school making excellent progress;
- 19 (2) "B" for a school making above average progress;
- 20 (3) "C" for a school making satisfactory progress;
- 21 (4) "D" for a school making less than satisfactory progress;
- 22 (5) "F" for a school failing to make adequate progress.

23 (c) The department shall assign a performance designation based on two years
 24 of data collected under AS 14.03.123(f) as follows:

- 25 (1) 50 percent on combined student achievement data;
- 26 (2) 25 percent on the individual learning gains of all students; and
- 27 (3) 25 percent on the individual learning gains in reading and
 28 mathematics, if any, achieved by students who scored at or below the 25th percentile
 29 on the statewide standards-based assessment in reading or mathematics.

30 (d) A school that has fewer than 20 full-time equivalent students is exempt
 31 from this section unless the principal of the school notifies the department that the

1 school is to be included in the grading system under this section.

2 (e) The department shall adopt regulations to implement this section and
3 provide annual incentives, including increased autonomy, to a district, to the extent
4 authorized by law, for making improvements in school and student performance in at
5 least two grade levels and for a grade of "A."

6 (f) The department shall assign to each school district a performance
7 designation that is based on the combined accountability data for all schools operated
8 by the district as provided under this section.

9 (g) Each school shall prominently display on the Internet website for the
10 school the performance designation assigned each year under this section for the
11 duration of the year. The school shall also annually notify parents and legal guardians
12 of students enrolled at the school of the performance designation in a letter in which
13 the performance designation is prominently displayed. A school may display at the
14 front office or at the front entrance of the school the performance designation assigned
15 to the school each year.

16 (h) The department shall prominently display on the department's Internet
17 website home page a link to the performance designation assigned to each district and
18 public school under this section.

19 (i) A school principal, a school district, and the department shall identify as an
20 Alaska Strategic Educator a teacher who volunteers to be assigned and is assigned to
21 teach in a classroom in a school for the school year immediately after a school year for
22 which that school earned a designation of "D" or "F" under this section.

23 * Sec. 6. This Act takes effect July 1, 2014.