

Alaska State Legislature

Senator Shelley Hughes, Chair
Session: Capital Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 465-3743



Senator John Coghill
Senator Cathy Giessel
Senator Gary Stevens
Senator Tom Begich

Senate Education Committee

Senate Bill 96 – Alaska Education Transformation Act

Explanation of Changes – Version R to T

1. Page 3, Lines 9-24: Adds additional requirements in Version T for the report that school districts must file annually under AS 14.03.120(a).
 - Districts will now need to make the report available on the district or community's website, or through another easily accessible method.
 - Districts will need to report the total number of administrative employees compared to the total number of teachers in the district.
 - Districts will need to report the total number of teachers compared to the total number of students in the district.
2. Page 4, Lines 6-13: Deletes changes in Version R that may require school districts to cooperate with businesses, nonprofit organizations, and other state or local government agencies.
3. Page 6, Lines 8-12: Adds language in Version T so that the multiplier is 1.00 for schools subject to the changes made in Section 11. Adds a definition of "road" to be one that is open to the public and receives year-round maintenance.
4. Page 7, Lines 3-5: Adds language in Version T to require any increases in Praxis test requirements to not go into effect for at least one year after the State School Board approves regulations that increase the requirements.
5. Page 8, Line 9: Adds language to Version T to require the name of a third-party vendor to be included on the consortium database for each virtual education course offered by a third-party vendor.
6. Page 8, Lines 27-28: Adds language in Version T to allow for third-party vendors to provide professional development courses on the consortium database.
7. Page 9, Lines 3-6: Adds language in Version T to allow for a district offering virtual education courses to charge a fee for the course based on the actual cost the district incurs to provide the course. The fee in Version R based on a fraction of the base student allocation is set as a ceiling for the course fee in Version T.

8. Page 9 Line 11: Changes this section to require any school district that participates in the consortium to pay a fee to cover the costs of the consortium.
9. Page 9 Lines 20-31: Version T deletes the definition of “host district”, as the change under point 7 makes this definition unnecessary.
10. Page 13 Lines 11-17: Adds a new section in Version T to make technical changes and to allow for the income of the Public School Trust Fund to be used for administrative costs of the fund.
11. Page 13 Lines 18-21: Changes Section 21 by placing this language in AS 37.14.140(b) and deletes language regarding the purposes for the fund as this is added in the changes under point 10.
12. Page 14 Line 18: AS 37.14.140 is no longer repealed in Version T and Sections 23 and 24 of Version R are combined into Section 24 of Version T.
13. Page 14 Line 24: Sections 26 and 27 of Version R are deleted as there are not currently any pending lawsuits relating to the Public School Trust Fund. Version T has only one effective date for the entire bill which is June 30, 2017.

Staff Contact: Joshua Banks, (907) 465-3743