

# ALASKA LEGISLATURE

## *Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins*

Angoon · Coffman Cove · Craig · Edna Bay · Elfin Cove · Game Creek · Hollis · Hoonah · Kake · Kasaan · Klawock · Kupreanof · Naukati  
Pelican · Petersburg · Point Baker · Port Alexander · Port Protection · Sitka · Tenakee Springs · Thorne Bay · Whale Pass

rep.jonathan.kreiss-tomkins@akleg.gov

Committees:  
State Affairs, Chair  
Fisheries  
Judiciary



Juneau, Alaska 99801 (Jan. – April)  
State Capitol, Room 411  
907.465.3732

Sitka, Alaska 99835 (May – Dec.)  
201 Katlian Street, Ste. 103  
907.747.4665

### **Sponsor Statement**

#### **HB 102 — Limited Teacher Certificates**

Language immersion education is an increasingly popular educational model that also produces impressive academic outcomes. In an immersion program, some of the academic subject matter is delivered in a language other than English. HB 102 provides needed flexibility to school districts operating language immersion programs.

HB 102 expands the existing “Type M” and “Type I” teacher certificates to tackle one of the biggest challenges facing Alaska’s immersion programs: finding fully certified teachers also fluent in an Alaska Native or foreign language. HB 102 provides school districts case-by-case flexibility to hire language teachers they know are qualified to lead a classroom but who — for reasons such as limited English proficiency, advanced age, or familial responsibilities — are unable at the time to get a full teacher certification.

Alaska already has a variety of successful and popular immersion programs, including Wasilla’s Fronteras, Anchorage’s Rilke Schule, and Anchorage School District’s highly regarded world languages program.

Immersion is also central to Alaska Native language revitalization efforts. In Israel, New Zealand, and Hawaii, immersion education was at the core of indigenous language revival. At Ayaprun Elitnaurvik in Bethel, instruction is done in Yup’ik, and interest in Alaska Native language immersion education is growing elsewhere in the state.

HB 102 will help Alaska’s language immersion programs continue to provide high-quality dual-language education.

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 102(EDC)**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION**

**BY THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 3/27/17**

**Referred: Rules**

**Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES KREISS-TOMKINS, Grenn, Kopp, Parish, Millett, Westlake, Gara, Pruitt**

**SENATOR Costello**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1   **"An Act relating to instruction in a language other than English; and relating to limited**  
2   **teacher certificates."**

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

4    **\* Section 1.** AS 14.20.025 is repealed and reenacted to read:

5           **Sec. 14.20.025. Limited teacher certificates.** (a) Notwithstanding  
6           AS 14.20.020(b) and 14.20.022, the department may issue a limited teacher certificate,  
7           valid only in the area of expertise for which it is issued, to a person qualified under (b)  
8           of this section to teach

9                               (1) Alaska Native Culture;

10                              (2) military science;

11                              (3) vocational or technical education;

12                              (4) any subject if the language of instruction is not English.

13                   (b) A person may apply for a limited teacher certificate under this section if  
14           the person is the subject of a request made under (c) of this section and demonstrates,

1 as required by regulations adopted by the board, instructional skills and subject matter  
2 expertise sufficient to assure the public that the person is competent as a teacher. The  
3 board may require a person issued a limited teacher certificate under this section to  
4 undertake academic training as may be required by the board by regulation and make  
5 satisfactory progress in the academic training.

6 (c) The department may only issue a limited teacher certificate under this  
7 section if the school board of the district or regional educational attendance area in  
8 which an applicant for a limited teacher certificate will be teaching submits a request  
9 to the department for the limited teacher certificate to be issued to the applicant. A  
10 request for a limited teacher certificate under (a)(4) of this section must specify the  
11 subject and instructional language for which the certificate is valid.

12 (d) The board may adopt regulations necessary to implement this section. The  
13 regulations may not require an applicant under (a)(4) of this section to achieve a  
14 minimum score on an examination unless the examination is given in the instructional  
15 language for which the limited certificate is valid.

16 (e) A limited teacher certificate issued under this section is initially valid for  
17 one year. The department may, in accordance with regulations adopted by the board,  
18 extend or renew a limited teacher certificate issued under this section if the school  
19 board that initially requested the issuance of the limited teacher certificate requests  
20 that the certificate be extended or renewed and certifies that the person has  
21 demonstrated skills in classroom instruction and student assessment.

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## Sectional Analysis ver J

### HB 102 — Limited Teacher Certificates

HB 102 repeals and re-enacts AS 14.20.025.

#### Section 14.20.025(a)

The Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) may issue limited teacher certificates in certain specialty areas:

- Alaska Native culture;
- Military science;
- Vocational or technical education;
- Classes taught in non-English languages.

Under current law, limited certificates may be issued for teaching Alaska Native languages or culture, military science, and vocational or technical education. HB 102 adds classes taught in non-English languages to the existing list.

Certificates issued under this section in one of these specialty areas are subject to the provisions of AS 14.20.025 and exempt from certain requirements of AS 14.20.020 or AS 14.20.022.

#### Section 14.20.025(b)

Limited certificates can only be issued to a person if the school board of the district in which the person will teach has requested a limited certificate for that specific person. The limited certificate is valid only in the district that makes the request.

A person may only receive a limited certificate if they demonstrate “instructional skills and subject matter expertise sufficient to assure the public that the person is competent as a teacher.” This language is used in current law, and like in current law, the state board of education is empowered to write regulations interpreting it.

The state board of education’s regulations may require that a limited certificate holder undertake additional academic training.

**Section 14.20.025(c)**

A limited teacher certificate must specify the language(s) and subject(s) for which it is valid.

Restates that limited certificates can only be issued to a person if the school board of the district in which the person will teach has requested a limited certificate for that specific person. The limited certificate is valid only in the district that makes the request.

**Section 14.20.025(d)**

Gives the state board of education authority to write regulations implementing AS 14.20.025.

Provides that the regulations can't require a certificate applicant to achieve a minimum score on an exam unless that exam is given in the instructional language the certificate will be valid for (e.g. a teacher who will be teaching only in German or Iñupiaq cannot be required to pass an exam given in English).

**Section 14.20.25(e)**

Limited certificates are initially valid for one year. Terms and lengths of extension and renewal shall be set by the state board of education. In order for a limited certificate to be extended or renewed, the school board that initially requested the certificate must certify that the certificate holder has demonstrated skills in classroom instruction and student assessment.

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2017 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	CSHB 102(EDC)
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(H) Publish Date:	3/27/2017

Identifier: HB102-EED-SSA-02-08-17  
Title: LIMITED TEACHER CERTIFICATES;  
LANGUAGES  
Sponsor: KREISS-TOMKINS  
Requester: (H) Education

Department: Department of Education and Early Development  
Appropriation: Teaching and Learning Support  
Allocation: Student and School Achievement  
OMB Component Number: 2796

## Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2018 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2018 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2018	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

## Change in Revenues

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2017) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)  
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2018) cost: 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)  
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

## ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? Yes  
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 12/30/17

## Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Not applicable, initial version.

Prepared By:	Sondra Meredith, Administrator Teacher Education & Certification	Phone:	(907)465-8663
Division:	Teaching and Learning Support	Date:	02/24/2017 03:37 PM
Approved By:	Michael Johnson, Commissioner	Date:	02/24/17
Agency:	Department of Education & Early Development		

## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## Analysis

Section 1 repeals and reenacts AS 14.20.025, Limited teacher certificates.

In subsection (a), the reenacted language maintains the previous three areas of expertise (Alaska Native Culture, military science; and vocational or technical education) and adds a fourth area of expertise that would qualify an individual for a limited teaching certificate. The fourth area of expertise, (a)(4), is any subject area if the language of instruction is not English.

In combination, subsections (a) and (b) allow individuals to teach any subject in which they are able to demonstrate instructional skills and subject matter expertise, as required by regulations adopted by the State Board of Education, as long as they are teaching the subject matter in a language other than English.

Subsection (c) maintains the previous requirement that a school board of the district or regional educational attendance area requests the issuance of a limited teaching certificate and adds that an academic policy committee of a charter school may also make the request for the issuance of a limited teaching certificate. Subsection (c) requires that in the case of a limited certificate issued under (a)(4), the subject and the instructional language must be specified.

Subsection (d) maintains the State Board of Education's authority to require an individual that qualifies for a limited teaching certificate to undertake academic training as specified by the board. However, it prohibits the state board from adopting an examination requirement for a limited certificate issued under (a)(4) unless the examination is in the instructional language for which the limited certificate is valid.

Subsection (e) establishes the length of the initial limited certificate as one year with the option of extending or renewing the certificate upon request of the school board or academic policy committee that initially requested the issuance of the certificate.

The department does not anticipate a fiscal impact from this legislation, therefore a zero fiscal note is submitted.

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2018 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	CSHB 102(EDC)
Fiscal Note Number:	2
(S) Publish Date:	1/31/2018

Identifier: HB102CS(EDC)-EED-SSA-01-26-18  
Title: LIMITED TEACHER CERTIFICATES;  
LANGUAGES  
Sponsor: KREISS-TOMKINS  
Requester: Senate Labor & Commerce

Department: Department of Education and Early Development  
Appropriation: Education Support and Admin Services  
Allocation: Student and School Achievement  
OMB Component Number: 2796

## Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2019 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2019 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

## Change in Revenues

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2018) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)  
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2019) cost: 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)  
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

## ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? Yes  
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 12/30/18

## Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

This CS removes a provision that would have allowed an academic policy committee of a charter school to request the World Languages limited certification.

Prepared By: Bob Williams, Director  
Division: Educator & School Excellence  
Approved By: Dr. Michael Johnson, Commissioner  
Agency: Department of Education & Early Development

Phone: (907)465-8663  
Date: 01/26/2018  
Date: 01/26/18



## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## Analysis

Section 1 repeals and reenacts AS 14.20.025, Limited teacher certificates.

In subsection (a), reenacted language allows for the issuing of a limited teaching certificate to individuals who have not satisfied the requirements of AS 14.20.020(b), achievement of at least a baccalaureate degree, and the requirements of AS 14.20.022, enrollment in an approved teacher education program, but have expertise in four specific areas.

The reenacted language maintains the previous three areas of expertise (Alaska Native Culture, military science; and vocational or technical education) and adds a fourth area of expertise that would qualify an individual for a limited teaching certificate. The fourth area of expertise, (a)(4), is any subject area if the language of instruction is not English.

In combination, subsections (a) and (b) allow individuals to teach any subject in which they are able to demonstrate instructional skills and subject matter expertise, as required by regulations adopted by the State Board of Education, as long as they are teaching the subject matter in a language other than English.

Subsection (b) maintains the State Board of Education's authority to require an individual that qualifies for a limited teaching certificate to undertake academic training as specified by the board.

Subsection (c) requires that the school board of the district or regional educational attendance area to request the issuance of a limited teacher certificate to an applicant. The request must specify the subject and instructional language for which the certificate would be valid.

Subsection (d) prohibits the State Board of Education from adopting an examination requirement for a limited certificate issued under (a)(4) unless the examination is in the instructional language for which the limited certificate is valid.

Subsection (e) establishes the length of the initial limited certificate as one year with the option of extending or renewing the certificate upon request of the school board that initially requested the issuance of the certificate.

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### **Summary of Changes ver D – ver J**

#### **HB 102 — Limited Teacher Certificates**

Subsections (c) and (e) were amended in the House Education Committee to remove references to charter schools and academic policy committees. Prior to the change, academic policy committees of charter schools could request limited teacher certificates directly from the Department of Education and Early Development. Following the change, limited teacher certificates may only be requested by the school board of a district or regional educational attendance area (REAA).