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Explanation of Changes SCS for HB 214 (FIN)

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Repeals and reenacts AS 14.30.356(a) to require the department to work with school districts to develop and approve a "teen dating violence and abuse awareness program" with the same requirements as are in current law. This would remove the "unfunded mandate" to school districts to develop the program and provide consistency across the state, while still allowing for local control and cultural differences to be respected. Page 1, lines 6-10.

Adds an additional requirement that the program be periodically reviewed by a qualified individual or committee, which mirrors language in the suicide awareness and prevention training statute - AS 14.30.362. This ensures that best practices are followed. Page 1, lines 11-13.

Designates February as "Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month" to align with national efforts to bring attention to this important issue. Page 2, lines 13-21.

Names the program the "Bree Moore Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Program" to align the title with federal and other states' efforts to enact and promote similar programs. Page 2, lines 22-27.