

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2019 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 79
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB079-EED-SSA-3-22-19
Title: VIRTUAL ED/TEACHER EXAM./COURSE EXAM.
Sponsor: HUGHES
Requester: Senate Education Committee

Department: Department of Education and Early Development
Appropriation: Education Support and Administrative 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)

	FY2020 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2020 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2020	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Personal Services	806.4		806.4	806.4	806.4	806.4	806.4
Travel							
Services	67.2		67.2	67.2	67.2	67.2	67.2
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	873.6	0.0	873.6	873.6	873.6	873.6	873.6

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	873.6		873.6	873.6	873.6	873.6	873.6
Total	873.6	0.0	873.6	873.6	873.6	873.6	873.6

Positions

Full-time	7.0		7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2019) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2020) cost: 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)

Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account? No
(Supplemental/Capital/New Fund - 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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 03/31/20

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Not applicable; initial version based on the Governor's 2.13.19 FY20 budget request.

Prepared By: Deborah Riddle, Division Operations Manager
Division: Student Learning
Approved By: Heidi Teshner, Administrative Services Director
Agency: Office of Management and Budget

Phone: (907)465-2892
Date: 03/22/2019 12:15 PM
Date: 03/22/19

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 79

Analysis

There are several components throughout this bill. This bill supports virtual education and requires the Department of Education and Early Development to establish a virtual education consortium (AS 14.30.760) with cooperation of school districts. The bill amends AS 14.03.073 by outlining a process for school districts to provide opportunities for students to challenge courses for credit using a district determined assessment tool to ensure mastery of the material, as well as provides opportunities for students to earn credit outside of the school day in the areas of career and technical, art, music, physical and cultural education. This bill amends AS 14.03.078 by changing the department's February 15 report to the legislature to include school districts, as well as requiring the department to compare from October 1 the previous year, the ratio of administrative employees to students in each district, administrative employees to teachers in each district, and the number of teachers to students per school in each district. School districts would also be required to post this information on their website. In addition, this bill amends AS 14.17.505 by increasing the limit that a school district is allowed to retain in its unreserved fund balance from 10% to 25% of district expenditures. This bill amends AS 14.20.020 by requiring the department to set the minimum passing scores for Praxis basic competency and content area exams so the level is equal to or higher than established by another state. Finally, the bill amends AS 14.20.380 and AS 14.20.460 by requiring the department to provide administrative support services to the Professional Teaching Practices Commission (PTPC).

The legislative findings related to virtual education and changes to AS 14.03.073 take effect July 1, 2020; the remaining sections in the bill take effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

The fiscal impact to the department under this bill is in regards to AS 14.30.760, Virtual education consortium. This portion of the bill requires the department to do the following:

- 1) establish a virtual education consortium (1 PFT position);
- 2) review curriculum and approve courses (3 PFT positions - content specialists in Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science; and 1 PFT Education Associate II);
- 3) provide virtual instruction methods for teachers of grades six through 12 (same as #2);
- 4) professional development courses for teachers of any grade (same as #2);
- 5) create and maintain a database of all virtual courses and professional development created (2 PFT positions); and
- 6) ensure teachers have completed training in virtual education or demonstrate that they have experience teaching virtual courses (same as #1).

A total of 7 PFT positions are necessary to enact this legislation. (6 - Education Specialist II, Range 21, Step B, at \$119.4 each = \$716.4 and 1 - Education Associate II, Range 15, Step B, at \$90.0). Total associated costs for these 7 positions includes salary and benefits of \$806.4 and department chargebacks of \$67.2 (\$9.6 per position).