Alaska State Legislature

Senate Education Committee

Senator Gary Stevens, Chair

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MEMBERS: Senator Tom Begich Senator Chris Birch Senator Mia Costello Senator Shelley Hughes

SPONSOR STATEMENT

SENATE BILL 114

The Education Transformation Act

Every Alaskan student matters and deserves a high quality education. SB 114 takes steps toward the transformation of our education system in Alaska to better meet the needs of our students in the 21st century, while bearing in mind the budget challenges our districts face. Alaska has had a large achievement gap for too many years, resulting in some of the lowest graduation rates and testing scores in the nation and putting our students in a poor position on a global basis. We can do better, and it is our obligation to do better.

The goal of this bill is to improve our schools and increase academic outcomes for students by providing tools and incentives to school districts, to the University of Alaska, and to the state Department of Education and Early Development.