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CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 112(EDC)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**Offered:****Referred:****Sponsor(s): SENATOR SHOWER****A BILL****FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to transportation of students; and requiring that school districts**
2 **establish a student transportation fund."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 14.09.010(b) is amended to read:

5 (b) The department shall adopt regulations that provide for oversight of and
6 support to school districts in achieving a safe and cost-effective student transportation
7 system. The regulations must include a requirement for contract terms of not less than
8 three years, if feasible, standardized conditions and bid periods, and standards that
9 ensure cost efficiencies and exclusions. The regulations must require
10 implementation of a bus logistics plan that increases efficiency of school
11 transportation using an airline or other private sector spoke and wheel type of
12 model to reduce multiple individual runs on the same routes and proactive
13 planning of school schedules to ensure maximum efficiency.

14 *** Sec. 2.** AS 14.09.010 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

1 (h) Each school district shall establish a student transportation fund. The fund
2 consists of

3 (1) money distributed to the district by the department for the
4 operation of the district's student transportation system in accordance with (a) of this
5 section;

6 (2) gifts, bequests, contributions from other sources, and federal
7 money received for the operation of the district's student transportation system; and

8 (3) other money deposited in the fund by the district.

9 (i) A school district shall separately account for money received under (h)(1)
10 of this section. A school district shall maintain complete financial records of the
11 receipt, transfer, and expenditure of money deposited in the fund under (h)(1) of this
12 section. The records must be in the form required by the department and are subject to
13 audit by the department at a time and place designated by the department. Except as
14 provided in (e) of this section, a school district may transfer and expend money
15 received under (h)(1) of this section only for the operation of the district's student
16 transportation system.

17 (j) The department shall review each school district's annual audit under
18 AS 14.14.050 for the preceding fiscal year to ascertain the year-end balance of the
19 school district's student transportation fund. Each fiscal year, the state shall deduct
20 from the state aid that would otherwise be paid to a school district for the operation of
21 the district's student transportation system an amount equal to one-half of the
22 unreserved portion of the district's year-end student transportation fund balance.