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CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 146(EDC)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**Offered:
Referred:**

Sponsor(s): SENATOR MYERS

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to costs of and charges for textbooks and other course materials**
2 **required for University of Alaska courses; and providing for an effective date."**

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

4 * **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
5 to read:

6 SHORT TITLE. This Act may be known as the Textbook Cost Transparency Act.

7 * **Sec. 2.** AS 14.40 is amended by adding a new section to read:

8 **Sec. 14.40.112. Course materials.** (a) The University of Alaska online course
9 schedule must provide a description of each course that clearly identifies

10 (1) required course materials;

11 (2) which of the required course materials, if any, are zero-cost
12 resources;

13 (3) to the extent practicable, which of the required course materials, if
14 any, are low-cost resources; and

(4) the amount of each automatic fee, if any, charged for required course materials when a student registers for a course.

(b) A search function on the University of Alaska online course schedule must provide for searches identifying courses in which all required course materials are zero-cost or low-cost resources.

(c) In this section,

(1) "course materials" means books, computer software, magnetic media, DVDs, CD-ROMs, computer courseware, online services, online learning programs, or other media used to convey course information to a student;

(2) "low-cost resource" means a resource available to a student at a pre-tax sales price that is not more than four times the hourly minimum wage in the state established under AS 23.10.065(a);

(3) "online course schedule" means an online list or catalog of courses or course sections used by students for course registration or scheduling;

(4) "zero-cost resource" means a resource available to a student free of charge.

* **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2026.