

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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REPRESENTATIVE ANDY JOSEPHSON

HB246: Special Education Service Agency **Sponsor Statement**

The Special Education Service Agency was established by the legislature in 1986. Part of the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education, the agency is charged with outreach services to disabled students, instructional support, and other related services. These services are made available to school districts whose students have special education needs requiring specialized services not normally available in the school district.

Funding to support the Agency is by a statewide formula, based on a per-student calculation. The current allocation is \$23.13 per student, which was last adjusted in 2021. The Agency has indicated that this is no longer adequate to meet the needs of Alaska's students, and has requested an increase to \$26.89. HB246 would increase the allocation to \$26.89 for Fiscal Year 2027 and beyond.

January-May: State Capitol, Room 432, Juneau, Alaska 99801 • (907) 465-4939 • (800) 465-4939

June-December: 1500 W Benson Blvd, Room 312, Anchorage, Alaska 99503 • (907) 269-0265

Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov