

Differences Between CS HB 256 Versions T and U  
**Version U is dated 3/12/12**

1. Page 3: Line 22 – Amends Duties of the Department:
  - a. Rather than “regulations adopted”, this section was changed to the **plans** the Department adopts or recommends.
  - b. The Department provides notice and an opportunity for public school and district administrators to participate in the crafting of plans and other studies and evaluations related to the improvement of public schools.
  - c. Any plan the Department adopts or recommends for public schools must include the items A-H, which have not changed.
  - d. The plans also must comply with federal and state law and the Superior Court’s findings dated Feb. 4, 2009.
  - e. The plans must provide for training and technical support; regular monitoring, evaluation and modification of improvement efforts tailored to the strengths and weaknesses of the school; availability of courses and remedial programs necessary for all students attending a low-performing school to meet state standards for graduation in the expected timeframe. (AS 14.07.030(14) Page 9.)
2. Page 4: Lines 8-11 and 16-17 were rewritten for clarity. The intent has not changed.
3. Page 6: Line 26 change “if” to “when” a school is designated low performing.
4. Beginning at Page 6, Line 29 – Page 8: Line 9 – rewritten to clarify Year 1 and Year 2 activities.
  - a. Year 1: Selection of one independent expert by August 15. District Superintendent and Commissioner select.
  - b. Year 1: Expert will have evaluated the school in the areas requested. **Expert’s site visit will not exceed seven days.**

- c. Year 1: Expert produces a written report by October 15 and distributes. A summary is posted on the Internet. *(same as previous version)*
  - d. Year 1: By November 15, the Superintendent and the Department will select a qualified coach, and the local school board and the Department will select a qualified coach. **These coaches will advise the district for not more than 20 days total** regarding the needs identified in the evaluation.
  - e. Year 1: On June 1 provide to the department, parents, legislature and post on the Internet a summary of progress of these efforts and the observations and recommendations of the coaches. *(same as previous version)*
  - f. YEAR 2: Not later than September 15, mandatory selection and hiring of two additional qualified coaches to advised the district. One selected by superintendent and one selected by the local school board, **after input from the Association of Alaska School Boards. DELETED [from a high performance school district].** The coaches will advise the district **for not more than 20 days total** regarding the needs identified in the evaluation.
  - g. YEAR 2: By June 1, provide to the State Board of Education, department, parents, legislature and post on the Internet a summary of the progress of these efforts. *(same as previous version)*
5. Page 8: lines 11-31 – Page 9: Line 1
- a. YEAR 3 activities rewritten for clarity. The intent remains the same. **Added implementation of Alaska State Cultural Standards as one of the areas of best practice for the Team to consider and evaluate.**
6. Page 9: following Line 1
- a. **DELETES subsection requiring the Department to request proposals from and provide grants (subject to appropriation) to schools or districts in restoration.**

7. Page 9: Lines 3-4
  - a. **DELETE [Notwithstanding any other provision of this title...]** This language is confusing and inconsistent with the addition of language specific to the Moore case.
8. Page 9: Lines 9-11  
**DELETES the Department's ability to direct the employees of the district or school outside of the collaborative process in AS 14.07.020 (a)(19).**
9. Page 9: Lines 12-13  
**Ensures that any appropriations redirected under AS 14 are done so as necessary under the new collaborative process involving the School Improvement Team.**
10. Page 10: Former Section 7
  - a. **DELETED former Section 7 which amended AS 14.07.030-Powers of the Department (*Department may employ coaches if the school or district agrees to the coach...*)**
11. Page 10: Lines 13-16 adds a requirement that contracts for teachers must require a teacher leaving employment to complete the Department's exit survey.