

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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## Representative Bill Elam

*DISTRICT 8*

### House Bill 358

### CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION GRANTS

#### Sectional Analysis – Version A

**Section 1:** Amends AS 14.07.020(a) to add a new duty for the Department of Education and Early Development to collaborate with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development to identify and expand pre-apprenticeship and work-based learning opportunities for secondary students, using existing workforce and training programs where practicable. This reinforces coordination between education and workforce systems.

**Section 2:** Makes a conforming amendment to AS 14.07.020(a) (as previously amended) to include the same collaboration requirement between the Department of Education and Early Development and the Department of Labor and Workforce Development regarding pre-apprenticeship and work-based learning opportunities for secondary students.

**Section 3:** Adds a new Article 17 to AS 14.30 establishing the Statewide Career and Technical Education Mobility Grant Program.

**(a):** Creates the program to encourage participation in CTE by enabling students to attend programs in other districts. Establishes prioritization for funding when appropriations are insufficient, with preference for small, limited-capacity, rural, or remote districts where distance or transportation barriers increase costs.

**(b):** Authorizes grants to host districts to reimburse incremental, student-specific costs of serving out-of-district students, including certain infrastructure and equipment needs, with limits tied to performance grants.

**(c):** Creates performance-based incentive grants and prohibits regulatory caps on total grant amounts. Requires the department to consider measurable outcomes such as certifications, apprenticeships, dual credit, and job placements, as well as improvements in relevant academic and workforce-supporting skills.

**(d):** Establishes facility and equipment modernization grants for CTE programs, prioritizing shared, multi-district use and considering program performance and industry partnerships.

**(e):** Directs the department to minimize administrative burden by using existing reporting systems and data sources where possible.

**(f):** Requires the department to adopt regulations to implement the program.

**(g):** Provides definitions for “career and technical education,” “host district,” and “school district.”

This section is the core of the bill and creates the framework to support student mobility, reward successful outcomes, and modernize CTE capacity statewide.

**Section 4:** Amends AS 44.31.020 to add a duty for the Department of Labor and Workforce Development to collaborate with the Department of Education and Early Development to identify and expand pre-apprenticeship and work-based learning opportunities for secondary students, aligning workforce development efforts with secondary education.