

# REPRESENTATIVE JAMIE D. ALLARD

## SESSION

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## **Sponsor Statement** **Right to Attend School; Military Transfer**

*"An Act relating to earning secondary school course credit through assessment; and relating to a child's right to attend public school"*

One of the more difficult tasks that military families face throughout our nation is the need to move from base to base. These moves not only affect the service member, but their families also face this hardship. Leaving friends, schools, and environments they have become accustomed too is life changing and military families remember these moves. Sometimes with fondness, other times with a touch of sadness.

This bill brings some small measure of comfort to, and opportunity for those family members when they begin to integrate into the new schools Alaska has to offer. This bill would allow the children of service members to immediately move into Alaska schools at the same grade level they were in at their previous schools.

This bill also provides all students more opportunities to test out of subjects they may have already learned and passed in their previous schools and not have to retake a subject at their new school. This will allow those students to move up faster and focus on subjects that truly interest them and give them a measure of control over their own education.

Military students will be able to seamlessly move into local schools without having to worry about whether or not their previous schools age groups align with Alaska's. This prevents gaps in their learning and keeps them more closely aligned with their peers and social groups. In addition to that, all Alaskan students will be given more opportunities to test up into newer and more exciting schooling opportunities.