

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 261
 Fiscal Note Number: _____
 () Publish Date: _____

Identifier: HB261SCSCS(EDC)-EED-FP-5-15-26
 Title: EDUCATION FUNDING
 Sponsor: STORY
 Requester: (S) EDUCATION

Department: Department of Education and Early Development
 Appropriation: K-12 Aid to School Districts
 Allocation: Foundation Program
 OMB Component Number: 141

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2027	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2027 Request	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2027	FY 2027	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None								
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

Change in Revenues

None								
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2026) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2027) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*

Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account? No
(Supplemental/Capital/New Fund - discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? **Yes**
 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? **07/01/27**

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Conforms to version "T", which removes the cap on annual local contribution growth.

Prepared By: <u>Heather Heineken, Division Director</u>	Phone: <u>(907)269-6889</u>
Division: <u>Finance and Support Services</u>	Date: <u>05/15/2026 05:00 PM</u>
Approved By: <u>Dawn Hannasch, Administrative Services Director</u>	Date: <u>05/15/2026</u>
Agency: <u>Department of Education and Early Development</u>	

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SCSCSHB261

Analysis

This bill proposes allocating funds to districts based on the previous year's average daily membership (ADM) count for the current fiscal year, with exceptions beneficial to district funding. Provisions that affect the public education (Foundation) funding formula:

- Removes the current hold harmless provision for districts experiencing a five percent or greater drop in ADM at the school size factor (AS 14.17.410). Districts that are eligible on July 1, 2026 can choose to continue until the calculation is completed over a maximum three year period; however, no districts are estimated to benefit after FY2027.
- Provides three options for the intensive services funding factor (AS 14.17.420): previous year October count, current year October count, or current year February count.
- Increases the career and technical education (CTE) funding factor from 1.015 to 1.023 (AS 14.17.420) by removing previously adopted conditional language making an increase in the CTE factor contingent on passage of a highly digitized business tax bill and instead provides for an effective date of July 1, 2026 (FY2027).
- Provides that ADM is based on greater of the current year ADM count, previous year ADM, or prior three-year average ADM (AS 14.17.450).
- Requires payment of additional funds in current year if ADM or intensive student count increases (AS 14.17.610).
- Provides option for using a previous three-year average ADM for determining whether a facility qualifies as a school (AS 14.17.905).
- Removes minimum ADM for funding alternative programs as a separate school for the purposes of a school size factor adjustment (AS 14.17.905).

The definition of "prior three-year average ADM" uses the data from the three count periods prior to the current year count. For this fiscal note the prior three-year average ADM counts were based on FY2023-2025 and compared to the current FY2026 preliminary counts, and then further compared to the FY2027 projected ADM to determine estimated funding for FY2027-FY2032. Intensive counts compared FY2026 preliminary and FY2027 projected; no data is available for the proposed February 15 count. Correspondence ADM is from FY2026 preliminary counts.

This bill takes effect July 1, 2026 (FY2027).

See School Finance & Facilities (component 2737) fiscal note for regulation discussion.

The funding mechanism is a general fund transfer to the Public Education Fund (PEF). The fiscal note effect for FY2027 through FY2032 is reported in the fiscal note for the PEF, as the funding is deposited to the PEF, not into the Foundation Program funding component. The above analysis is presented here for explanation purposes only.