

Alaska House of Representatives

33RD ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

HCS for CSSB 140 (blank): “An Act relating to education; relating to funding for Internet services for school districts; requiring the department of Education and Early Development to provide information relating to public schools on an Internet website; relating to charter schools; relating to public school students who are deaf or hard of hearing; relating to information on the post-secondary education, career path, and residency of graduates from high schools in the state; relating to transportation of students; relating to state funding for districts operating residential schools; relating to funding for correspondence study programs; increasing the base student allocation; relating to education tax credits; authorizing lump sum payments for certain teachers as retention and recruitment incentives; providing for an effective date by repealing the effective dates of secs. 1, 2, and 21, ch. 61, SLA 2014; and providing for an effective date.”

This summary explains the changes between this draft, LS-330687\D, and the version that was passed out of House Finance, HCS for CSSB (FIN), draft 33-LS0687\U.

Section 1: No change.

Section 2: No change.

Section 3: Adds a new section to AS 14.03, Public Schools Generally. This new section gives the Board of Education the authority to authorize a charter school in a district under regulations adopted by the board. The regulations must include an application procedure and provisions for the establishment of an academic policy committee. The local school boards shall operate a charter school under this section as provided in AS 14.03.255-14.03.290.

Section 4: Same as found in section 3 of the Finance CS.

Section 5: Same as found in section 4 of the Finance CS.

Section 6: Amends AS 14.07.165(a), Duties. Adds a new subsection stating regulations regarding establishment of charter schools be made by the board of education.

Section 7: Same as found in section 5 of the Finance CS.

Section 8: Same as found in section 6 of the Finance CS.

Section 9: Amends AS 14.17.430, State funding for correspondence study. Adds subsection 2 that adds the special needs factor to the ADM of the correspondence program.

Section 10: Amends AS 14.17.470, Base student allocation. Adds a \$300 increase to the BSA.

Section 11: Adds new subsections to AS 14.30.272, Procedural Safeguards. Adds provisions for deaf and hearing impaired that must be adopted by school districts. Basically, it is a deaf and hard of hearing children's bill of rights that establishes consistency in the information provided to parents by the school district, allows parents to choose the best method of communication for their child and requires the school district to provide services using the parent's chosen method of communication.

Section 12: Adds a new subsection to AS 14.30.276, Least restrictive environment. Requires the department to establish and operate a centralized program for students whose primary language is American Sign Language, provide residential services as part of the program, establishes that a school district may operate the program under specific requirements, and provide funding for the students who attend the program operated by a school district.

Section 13: Same as found in section 8 of the CS.

Section 14: Repeals Sections 1, 2 and 21, chapter 61, SLA 2014, and sec. 38(b), ch.101, SLA 2018. This language proposes to keep the same structure of tax deductions and tax credits that began in 2021, while removing the sunset provision.

Section 15: Uncodified law. Provides subject to appropriation, a lump sum payment to eligible teachers as a retention and recruitment incentive. The criteria for eligibility is contained within this provision.

Section 16: Uncodified law. Allows the State Board of Education to adopt regulations to implement the changes made in sections 3 and 6 of this bill.

Section 17: Repeals the education tax credit statutes as noted in Section 14.

Section 18: Section 5 is affected by the adoption of Sections 4, 6, 8, 11, 12, 16, 20, 23, 28, 30, 33, and 47 of ch. 40, SLA 2022, and takes effect on June 30, 2034.

Section 19: Section 16 takes effect immediately.

Section 20: All sections with the exception of Sections 18 and 19 take effect on July 1, 2024.