

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 69(RLS) am**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE

Amended: 3/10/25

Offered: 3/10/25

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES HIMSCHOOT, Dibert, Josephson, Holland, Galvin, Mina, Fields, Carrick, Story, Hannan, Schrage, Eischeid, Hall, Burke, Gray, Edgmon, Mears, Stutes, Foster, Kopp

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to education; relating to open enrollment in public schools; relating to  
2 school and student performance reports; relating to school and district accountability;  
3 relating to charter schools; relating to an annual report for correspondence study  
4 programs; relating to the base student allocation; relating to reading proficiency  
5 incentive grants; relating to wireless telecommunications devices in public schools;  
6 relating to the duty of the legislature to pass a public education appropriation bill;  
7 relating to the duty of the governor to prepare a public education appropriation bill;  
8 establishing the Task Force on Education Funding; relating to a report on regulation of  
9 school districts; and providing for an effective date."

10 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

11 \* **Section 1.** AS 14.03.080(a) is amended to read:

12 (a) **Subject to AS 14.14.110 and 14.14.120, a** [A] child of school age is

entitled to attend public school without payment of tuition during the school term

**(1) at [IN] the school in a school district that is assigned to the child based on the child's residence within the school district's boundary area; or**

**(2) at a school selected by a parent of the child under AS 14.03.080(i) [DISTRICT IN WHICH THE CHILD IS A RESIDENT SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF AS 14.14.110 AND 14.14.120].**

\* **Sec. 2.** AS 14.03.080(a), as amended by sec. 1 of this Act, is amended to read:

(a) **A** [SUBJECT TO AS 14.14.110 AND 14.14.120, A] child of school age is entitled to attend public school without payment of tuition during the school term **in**

**[(1) AT] the school district in which the child is a resident subject to the provisions of AS 14.14.110 and 14.14.120 [IN A SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT IS ASSIGNED TO THE CHILD BASED ON THE CHILD'S RESIDENCE WITHIN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S BOUNDARY AREA; OR**

**(2) AT A SCHOOL SELECTED BY A PARENT OF THE CHILD UNDER AS 14.03.080(i)].**

\* **Sec. 3.** AS 14.03.080 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(i) Each school district shall, upon application by a parent of a child of school age and subject to other provisions of this title governing enrollment of students in public schools and the enrollment capacity limitations of a selected school, allow the child to attend the school in the district selected by the parent instead of the school that is assigned to the child based on the child's residence within the district's boundary area. The district shall enroll the children selected by lottery throughout the school year, except that the district shall prioritize the enrollment of siblings in the same school. Each district shall establish a lottery for enrollment of children under this subsection and a process for conducting the lottery. The local school board of the district shall determine the capacity limitations of a school in the district.

(j) Each school district shall annually report to the department and publish on the district's publicly available Internet website student enrollment data for each school in the district, including enrollment capacity and vacancies for each grade in the school, the number of enrollment applications the district received under (i) of this section, the number of those applications the district approved, the number of those

1 applications the district denied, and an explanation of the reason for each denial.

2 (k) The department shall establish by regulation a process for appealing a  
3 school district's denial of an enrollment application submitted to the district under (i)  
4 of this section.

5 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 14.03.120(a) is amended to read:

6 (a) A district shall annually file with the department, and make available to the  
7 public, a report that

8 (1) establishes district goals and priorities for improving education in  
9 the district;

10 (2) includes a plan for achieving district goals and priorities; and

11 (3) includes a means of measuring **student academic performance**  
12 **over time** [THE ACHIEVEMENT OF DISTRICT GOALS AND PRIORITIES].

13 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 14.03.120(d) is amended to read:

14 (d) Annually, before the date set by the district under (e) of this section, each  
15 public school shall deliver to the department for posting on the department's Internet  
16 website and provide, in a public meeting of parents, students, and community  
17 members, a report on the school's performance and the performance of the school's  
18 students. The report shall be prepared on a form prescribed by the department and  
19 must include

20 (1) information on accreditation;

21 (2) results of norm-referenced achievement tests **that measure**  
22 **student academic performance over time**;

23 (3) results of state standards-based assessments in language arts and  
24 mathematics;

25 (4) [A DESCRIPTION, INCLUDING QUANTITATIVE AND  
26 QUALITATIVE MEASURES, OF STUDENT, PARENT, COMMUNITY, AND  
27 BUSINESS INVOLVEMENT IN STUDENT LEARNING;

28 (5)] a description of the school's attendance, retention, dropout, and  
29 graduation rates as specified by the state board;

30 **(5)** [(6)] the annual percent of enrollment change, regardless of reason,  
31 and the annual percent of enrollment change due to student transfers into and out of

1 the school district;

2 (6) [(7)] if Native language education is provided, a summary and  
3 evaluation of the curriculum described in AS 14.30.420;

4 (7) [(8)] the performance designation assigned the school under  
5 AS 14.03.123 and the methodology used to assign the performance designation,  
6 including the measures used and their relative weights;

7 (8) [(9)] other information concerning school performance and the  
8 performance of the school's students as required by the state board in regulation; and

9 (9) [(10)] information on the number, attendance, and performance of  
10 students enrolled in the school whose parents or guardians are on active duty in the  
11 armed forces of the United States, the United States Coast Guard, the Alaska National  
12 Guard, the Alaska Naval Militia, or the Alaska State Defense Force.

13 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 14.03.123(a) is amended to read:

14 (a) By September 1 of each year, the department shall assign a performance  
15 designation to each public school and school district and to the state public school  
16 system in accordance with (f) of this section. **The performance designation must be**  
17 **based on measurements of student academic performance over time.**

18 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 14.03.123(f) is amended to read:

19 (f) In the accountability system for schools and districts required by this  
20 section, the department shall

21 (1) implement state criteria and priorities for accountability including  
22 the use of

23 (A) measures of student performance on standards-based  
24 assessments in language arts and mathematics; the assessments must

25 (i) be selected with the input of teachers and school  
26 administrators;

27 (ii) [AND] minimize disruption to classroom  
28 instruction; **and**

29 **(iii) measure student academic performance over**  
30 **time;**

31 (B) measures of student improvement and academic

1 achievement; and

2 (C) other measures identified that are indicators of student  
3 success and achievement; and

4 (2) to the extent practicable, minimize the administrative burden on  
5 districts.

6 \* **Sec. 8.** AS 14.03.123 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

7 (h) Schools and districts may not use more than three hours of instructional  
8 time in a school year to conduct the assessments required under (f) of this section.

9 (i) The department may not use the National Assessment of Educational  
10 Progress to measure student academic performance or assign a performance  
11 designation under this section.

12 \* **Sec. 9.** AS 14.03.253(b) is amended to read:

13 (b) In an appeal to the state Board of Education and Early Development of a  
14 denial of a charter school application under (a)(3) of this section, the state board shall  
15 determine, based on the record, whether the commissioner's findings are supported by  
16 substantial evidence and whether the decision is contrary to law. The state board shall  
17 issue a written decision within 45 [90] days after the state board receives an appeal.

18 \* **Sec. 10.** AS 14.03.255(c) is amended to read:

19 (c) A charter school shall operate under a contract between the charter school  
20 and the local school board. A contract must contain the following provisions:

- 21 (1) a description of the educational program;
- 22 (2) specific levels of achievement for the education program;
- 23 (3) admission policies and procedures;
- 24 (4) administrative policies;
- 25 (5) a statement of the charter school's funding allocation from the local  
26 school board and costs assignable to the charter school program budget;
- 27 (6) the method by which the charter school will account for receipts  
28 and expenditures;
- 29 (7) the location and description of the facility;
- 30 (8) the name of the teacher, or teachers, who, by agreement between  
31 the charter school and the teacher, will teach in the charter school;

(9) the teacher-to-student ratio;

(10) the number of students served;

(11) the term of the contract, not to exceed a term of 10 years;

(12) a termination clause providing that the contract may be terminated by the local school board for the failure of the charter school to meet educational achievement goals or fiscal management standards, or for other good cause;

(13) **a clause providing that, before a local school board terminates a contract, the local school board must provide the charter school with written notice and a reasonable opportunity, as determined by the local school board, to cure the problem;**

**(14)** a statement that the charter school will comply with all state and federal requirements for receipt and use of public money;

**(15)** [(14)] other requirements or exemptions agreed **on** [UPON] by the charter school and the local school board.

\* **Sec. 11.** AS 14.03.255 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(e) A charter school may carry forward to the next fiscal year not more than 10 percent of the unreserved portion of the charter school's year-end program budget balance. Money carried forward under this subsection is reserved and excluded from the unreserved portion of a school district's year-end fund balance in the school operating fund under AS 14.17.505. The local school board shall review the charter school's program budget for the preceding fiscal year to ascertain the charter school's year-end program budget balance.

(f) A local school board shall establish procedures and standards for renewal of a contract between the local school board and a charter school. The renewal process must be as simple as possible.

\* **Sec. 12.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

**Sec. 14.03.256. Charter school termination appeal.** If a local school board terminates a contract with a charter school, the charter school may appeal the decision to the commissioner under regulations established by the commissioner. The commissioner may request written supplementation from the appellant or local school board. The commissioner shall review the decision of the local school board to

determine whether the findings of fact are supported by substantial evidence and whether the decision is contrary to law. The commissioner shall issue a written decision within 90 days after the appeal is filed and may

(1) remand the appeal to the local school board for further review;

(2) reapprove the charter school with or without added conditions; or

(3) uphold the decision terminating the charter school contract.

\* **Sec. 13.** AS 14.03.260(a) is amended to read:

(a) A local school board shall provide an approved charter school with an annual program budget. The budget shall be not less than the amount generated by the students enrolled in the charter school less administrative costs retained by the local school district, determined by applying the indirect cost rate approved by the department up to eight [FOUR] percent. Costs directly related to charter school facilities, including rent, utilities, and maintenance, may not be included in an annual program budget for the purposes of calculating the eight [FOUR] percent cap on administrative costs under this subsection. A local school board shall provide a charter school with a report itemizing the administrative costs retained by the local school board under this section. The "amount generated by students enrolled in the charter school" is to be determined in the same manner as it would be for a student enrolled in another public school in that school district and includes funds generated by grants, appropriations, federal impact aid, the required local contribution, the local contribution under AS 14.17.410(c), special needs under AS 14.17.420(a)(1), and secondary school vocational and technical instruction under AS 14.17.420(a)(3). A school district shall direct state aid under AS 14.11 for the construction or major maintenance of a charter school facility to the charter school that generated the state aid, subject to the same terms and conditions that apply to state aid under AS 14.11 for construction or major maintenance of a school facility that is not a charter school.

\* **Sec. 14.** AS 14.03.275 is amended to read:

**Sec. 14.03.275. Contracts; duration; renewal.** A contract for a charter school may be for a term of not [NO] more than 10 years. A local school board may renew the contract for successive terms.

\* **Sec. 15.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

1           **Sec. 14.03.277. Charter school coordinator.** A charter school coordinator  
 2 position is established in the department. This position is responsible for the  
 3 development of a repository of charter school resources in the department. The charter  
 4 school coordinator shall provide support to charter schools, including

- 5                   (1) providing charter schools with policy and regulation guidance;
- 6                   (2) assisting groups with preparing charter school applications; and
- 7                   (3) coordinating with school districts and an organization that is the  
 8 representative agency of the members of the school boards of the state to support  
 9 charter school academic policy committees and local school boards.

10   \* **Sec. 16.** AS 14.03.300 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

11           (c) Each district that provides a correspondence study program, and the  
 12 department if the department provides a correspondence study program, shall prepare  
 13 an annual report that includes

- 14                   (1) the number of students enrolled in the program;
- 15                   (2) the demographic information of the students enrolled in the  
 16 program;
- 17                   (3) an accounting of student allotment funds that have been disbursed;
- 18                   (4) assessment and proficiency scores of the students enrolled in the  
 19 program; and
- 20                   (5) a review of curricula that have been provided by the program or  
 21 purchased using allotment funds.

22           (d) A district shall submit a report required under (c) of this section to the  
 23 department, and the department shall provide the report to the state Board of  
 24 Education and Early Development. If the department provides a correspondence study  
 25 program, the department shall also submit to the state board the department's report  
 26 required under (c) of this section.

27   \* **Sec. 17.** AS 14.07.020(a) is amended to read:

- 28           (a) The department shall
  - 29                   (1) exercise general supervision over the public schools of the state  
 30 except the University of Alaska;
  - 31                   (2) study the conditions and needs of the public schools of the state,



1 adopt or recommend plans, administer and evaluate grants to improve school  
 2 performance awarded under AS 14.03.125, and adopt regulations for the improvement  
 3 of the public schools; the department may consult with the University of Alaska to  
 4 develop secondary education requirements to improve student achievement in college  
 5 preparatory courses;

6 (3) provide advisory and consultative services to all public school  
 7 governing bodies and personnel;

8 (4) prescribe by regulation a minimum course of study for the public  
 9 schools; the regulations must provide that, if a course in American Sign Language is  
 10 given, the course shall be given credit as a course in a foreign language;

11 (5) establish, in coordination with the Department of Family and  
 12 Community Services, a program for the continuing education of children who are held  
 13 in juvenile detention facilities or juvenile treatment facilities, as those terms are  
 14 defined in AS 47.12.990, in the state during the period of detention or treatment;

15 (6) accredit those public schools that meet accreditation standards  
 16 prescribed by regulation by the department; these regulations shall be adopted by the  
 17 department and presented to the legislature during the first 10 days of any regular  
 18 session, and become effective 45 days after presentation or at the end of the session,  
 19 whichever is earlier, unless disapproved by a resolution concurred in by a majority of  
 20 the members of each house;

21 (7) prescribe by regulation, after consultation with the state fire  
 22 marshal and the state sanitarian, standards that will ensure healthful and safe  
 23 conditions in the public and private schools of the state, including a requirement of  
 24 physical examinations and immunizations in pre-elementary schools; the standards for  
 25 private schools may not be more stringent than those for public schools;

26 (8) exercise general supervision over early education programs that  
 27 receive direct state or federal funding, including early education programs provided by  
 28 a school district for students four and five years of age, approve an early education  
 29 program provided by a school district that complies with the standards adopted by the  
 30 board under AS 14.07.165(a)(5), and revoke approval of an early education program if  
 31 the program does not comply with the standards adopted by the board under

1 AS 14.07.165(a)(5);

2 (9) exercise general supervision over elementary and secondary  
3 correspondence study programs offered by municipal school districts or regional  
4 educational attendance areas; the department may also offer and make available to any  
5 Alaskan through a centralized office a correspondence study program;

6 (10) accredit private schools that request accreditation and that meet  
7 accreditation standards prescribed by regulation by the department; nothing in this  
8 paragraph authorizes the department to require religious or other private schools to be  
9 licensed;

10 (11) review plans for construction of new public elementary and  
11 secondary schools and for additions to and major rehabilitation of existing public  
12 elementary and secondary schools and, in accordance with regulations adopted by the  
13 department, determine and approve the extent of eligibility for state aid of a school  
14 construction or major maintenance project; for the purposes of this paragraph, "plans"  
15 include educational specifications, schematic designs, projected energy consumption  
16 and costs, and final contract documents;

17 (12) provide educational opportunities in the areas of vocational  
18 education and training, and basic education to individuals over 16 years of age who  
19 are no longer attending school; the department may consult with businesses and labor  
20 unions to develop a program to prepare students for apprenticeships or internships that  
21 will lead to employment opportunities;

22 (13) administer the grants awarded under AS 14.11;

23 (14) establish, in coordination with the Department of Public Safety, a  
24 school bus driver training course;

25 (15) require the reporting of information relating to school disciplinary  
26 and safety programs under AS 14.33.120 and of incidents of disruptive or violent  
27 behavior;

28 (16) establish by regulation criteria, based on low student performance,  
29 under which the department may intervene in a school district to improve instructional  
30 practices, as described in AS 14.07.030(a)(14) or (15); the regulations must include

31 (A) a notice provision that alerts the district to the deficiencies

1 and the instructional practice changes proposed by the department;

2 (B) an end date for departmental intervention, as described in  
 3 AS 14.07.030(a)(14)(A) and (B) and (15), after the district demonstrates three  
 4 consecutive years of improvement consisting of not less than two percent  
 5 increases in student proficiency on standards-based assessments in language  
 6 arts and mathematics, as provided in AS 14.03.123(f)(1)  
 7 [AS 14.03.123(f)(1)(A)]; and

8 (C) a process for districts to petition the department for  
 9 continuing or discontinuing the department's intervention;

10 (17) notify the legislative committees having jurisdiction over  
 11 education before intervening in a school district under AS 14.07.030(a)(14) or  
 12 redirecting public school funding under AS 14.07.030(a)(15);

13 (18) establish a reading program to provide direct support for and  
 14 intervention in the reading intervention programs of participating schools as described  
 15 in AS 14.30.765 and 14.30.770;

16 (19) annually convene, either in person or electronically, a panel to  
 17 review and comment on the effectiveness of the programs created by the department  
 18 and the regulations adopted by the board to implement AS 14.03.410, 14.03.420,  
 19 AS 14.30.760 - 14.30.770, and 14.30.800; the panel

20 (A) shall provide recommendations and guidance to the board,  
 21 the department, and the legislature on how to integrate early education and  
 22 reading programs created under this title with tribal compacting or programs  
 23 focused on cultural education within the department;

24 (B) shall discuss support for reading in Alaska Native  
 25 languages and other non-English languages;

26 (C) must collectively represent the regions of the state and include teachers of  
 27 grades kindergarten through three, school administrators, parents of students in grades  
 28 kindergarten through three, stakeholders from indigenous language immersion  
 29 programs, representatives from early education stakeholder groups, and researchers of  
 30 best practices for improving literacy performance, including best practices for  
 31 instruction of indigenous students and students whose first language is not English.

1 \* **Sec. 18.** AS 14.07.168 is amended to read:

2 **Sec. 14.07.168. Report to the legislature.** Not later than the 30th legislative  
3 day of each regular session of the legislature, the board shall prepare and present in  
4 person to the legislative committees having jurisdiction over education an annual  
5 report that describes the efforts of the board to develop, maintain, and continuously  
6 improve a comprehensive quality public education system, as provided for under the  
7 bylaws of the board. The report must include

8 (1) a summary of the resolves and rationales provided in support of  
9 policy decisions made under AS 14.03.015;

10 (2) program and curriculum changes made, discussed, or  
11 recommended in meetings held under AS 14.07.125;

12 (3) additional information relevant to efforts made to improve and  
13 maintain the public education system;

14 (4) a summary of implementation and utilization of the consortium  
15 established under AS 14.30.800, including a review of consortium effectiveness and  
16 the participation rates of districts, teachers, and students;

17 **(5) the information reported to the board under AS 14.03.300(d).**

18 \* **Sec. 19.** AS 14.07.168, as amended by sec. 23, ch. 40, SLA 2022, is amended to read:

19 **Sec. 14.07.168. Report to the legislature.** Not later than the 30th legislative  
20 day of each regular session of the legislature, the board shall prepare and present in  
21 person to the legislative committees having jurisdiction over education an annual  
22 report that describes the efforts of the board to develop, maintain, and continuously  
23 improve a comprehensive quality public education system, as provided for under the  
24 bylaws of the board. The report must include

25 (1) a summary of the resolves and rationales provided in support of  
26 policy decisions made under AS 14.03.015;

27 (2) program and curriculum changes made, discussed, or  
28 recommended in meetings held under AS 14.07.125;

29 (3) additional information relevant to efforts made to improve and  
30 maintain the public education system;

31 **(4) the information reported to the board under AS 14.03.300(d).**

1 \* **Sec. 20.** AS 14.11.019 is amended to read:

2           **Sec. 14.11.019. Grant appropriations.** Within the appropriation bill  
3 authorizing capital expenditures submitted to the legislature under **AS 37.07.020(a)(4)**  
4 [AS 37.07.020(a)(3)], the governor shall include an appropriation for grants in the  
5 succeeding fiscal year as determined by the six-year capital improvement project grant  
6 schedule prepared under AS 14.11.013.

7 \* **Sec. 21.** AS 14.11.100(c) is amended to read:

8           (c) The school construction account is established. Funds to carry out the  
9 provisions of this section shall be included within the appropriation bill authorizing  
10 capital expenditures submitted to the legislature under **AS 37.07.020(a)(4)**  
11 [AS 37.07.020(a)(3)] and may be appropriated annually by the legislature to the  
12 account. If amounts in the account are insufficient for the purpose of providing the  
13 share to which a borough or city is entitled under this section, those funds that are  
14 available shall be distributed pro rata among the eligible municipalities, except that the  
15 legislature may direct that additional debt service on refunding bonds that exceeds the  
16 total debt service on the refunded bonds be disregarded in whole or in part.

17 \* **Sec. 22.** AS 14.17.470 is amended to read:

18           **Sec. 14.17.470. Base student allocation.** The base student allocation is **\$6,960**  
19 [\$5,960].

20 \* **Sec. 23.** AS 14.30 is amended by adding a new section to read:

21           **Sec. 14.30.773. Reading proficiency incentive grants.** (a) Subject to  
22 appropriation, a school district is eligible to receive a reading proficiency incentive  
23 grant of \$450 for each student in

24                   (1) kindergarten through grade three who performs at grade level or  
25 demonstrates improvement on expected grade-level skills on the statewide screening  
26 tool adopted by the department under AS 14.30.760; and

27                   (2) grades four through six who performs at grade level or  
28 demonstrates a measure of increased proficiency on a standards-based assessment in  
29 language arts.

30           (b) The department shall adopt regulations to implement this section.

31 \* **Sec. 24.** AS 14.30.773(a), enacted by sec. 23 of this Act, is amended to read:

(a) Subject to appropriation, a school district is eligible to receive a reading proficiency incentive grant of \$450 for each student in

[(1)] kindergarten through grade [THREE WHO PERFORMS AT GRADE LEVEL OR DEMONSTRATES IMPROVEMENT ON EXPECTED GRADE-LEVEL SKILLS ON THE STATEWIDE SCREENING TOOL ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER AS 14.30.760; AND

(2) GRADES FOUR THROUGH] six who performs at grade level or demonstrates a measure of increased proficiency on a standards-based assessment in language arts.

\* **Sec. 25.** AS 14.33 is amended by adding a new section to read:

**Article 5. Wireless Telecommunications Devices.**

**Sec. 14.33.300. Wireless telecommunications device policy.** (a) The department shall develop and adopt a model policy that regulates the use of nonschool-issued wireless telecommunications devices in public schools during regular school hours, including lunch and passing periods. If the model policy prohibits the use of nonschool-issued wireless telecommunications devices, the policy must allow exceptions for students to use a wireless telecommunications device for medical or translation purposes, in the event of an emergency, or when a teacher or administrator of the school grants permission to a student to use a wireless telecommunications device for educational purposes.

(b) Each school district shall adopt a policy that regulates the possession and use of nonschool-issued wireless telecommunications devices during regular school hours, including lunch and passing periods. Each school district shall share this policy with parents or guardians, students, volunteers, and school employees. If a school district's policy prohibits the use of nonschool-issued wireless telecommunications devices, the policy must allow exceptions for students to use a wireless telecommunications device for medical or translation purposes, in the event of an emergency, or when a teacher or administrator of the school grants permission to a student to use a wireless telecommunications device for educational purposes. A school district may either develop and adopt its own policy or adopt the model policy developed under (a) of this section.

1 (c) This section does not authorize a person to monitor, collect, or access  
2 information related to a student's use of a wireless telecommunications device.

3 (d) In this section, "wireless telecommunications device" means any portable  
4 wireless device that has the capability to provide voice, messaging, or other data  
5 communication between two or more parties.

6 \* **Sec. 26.** AS 24.20.140(a) is amended to read:

7 (a) Appropriations for carrying out AS 24.20.010 - 24.20.140 shall be set out  
8 in the appropriation bill authorizing operating expenditures submitted to the legislature  
9 under AS 37.07.020(a)(3) [AS 37.07.020(a)(2)] or other bills as may be necessary.  
10 The council may direct the executive director to transfer amounts from one  
11 appropriation to another if the transfer is considered necessary to accomplish the work  
12 of the council. The council may not exceed the total amount of the authorized  
13 appropriation. All expenditures of the council are subject to an independent audit that  
14 shall be made annually.

15 \* **Sec. 27.** AS 37.07.014 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

16 (g) An appropriation bill authorizing state operating expenditures for public  
17 school funding provided under AS 14.09 and AS 14.17 for the succeeding fiscal year  
18 must be passed by the legislature by March 15. In this subsection, "passed by the  
19 legislature" has the meaning given in AS 01.10.070.

20 \* **Sec. 28.** AS 37.07.020(a) is amended to read:

21 (a) The governor shall prepare a budget for the succeeding fiscal year that  
22 must cover all estimated receipts, including all grants, loans, and money received from  
23 the federal government and all proposed expenditures of the state government. The  
24 budget shall be organized so that the proposed expenditures for each agency are  
25 presented separately. The budget must be accompanied by the information required  
26 under AS 37.07.050 and by the following separate bills: (1) an appropriation bill  
27 authorizing the operating and capital expenditures of the state's integrated  
28 comprehensive mental health program under AS 37.14.003(a); (2) **an appropriation**  
29 **bill authorizing state operating expenditures for public school funding provided**  
30 **under AS 14.09 and AS 14.17; (3)** an appropriation bill authorizing state operating  
31 expenditures other than those included in the state's integrated comprehensive mental

health program **or included under (2) of this subsection; (4)** [; (3)] an appropriation bill authorizing capital expenditures other than those included in the state's integrated comprehensive mental health program; and **(5)** [(4)] a bill or bills covering recommendations, if any, in the budget for new or additional revenue. The budget for the succeeding fiscal year and each of the bills shall become public information on December 15 at which time the governor shall submit copies to the legislature and make copies available to the public. The bills, identical in content to the copies released on December 15, shall be delivered to the rules committee of each house before the fourth legislative day of the next regular session for introduction.

\* **Sec. 29.** AS 14.03.123(c)(2), 14.03.123(c)(3), 14.03.123(c)(5), and 14.03.123(e) are repealed.

\* **Sec. 30.** AS 14.03.080(i), 14.03.080(j), and 14.03.080(k) are repealed.

\* **Sec. 31.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

TASK FORCE ON EDUCATION FUNDING. (a) The Task Force on Education Funding is established as a joint task force of the Alaska State Legislature.

(b) The task force shall

(1) analyze the state of public education funding and the current accountability provisions for schools and districts in the state;

(2) make recommendations relating to public education funding and accountability provisions for schools and districts in the state; and

(3) submit a report of findings and recommendations of the task force to the senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of representatives not later than the first day of the Second Regular Session of the Thirty-Fourth Alaska State Legislature and notify the members of the legislature that the report is available.

(c) The task force consists of six members as follows:

(1) three members of the senate, at least one of whom is a member of the minority, appointed by the president of the senate; the president of the senate shall select one of the members to serve as co-chair of the task force;

(2) three members of the house of representatives, at least one of whom is a member of the minority, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; the speaker



1 of the house of representatives shall select one of the members to serve as co-chair of the task  
2 force.

3 (d) A vacancy on the task force shall be filled in the same manner as the original  
4 selection or appointment.

5 (e) The task force shall meet at the call of the co-chairs. The task force may meet  
6 between and during legislative sessions. A majority of the members of the task force  
7 constitute a quorum. The task force may conduct meetings in person, telephonically, or by  
8 electronic means, as directed by the co-chairs.

9 (f) The task force may request data and other information from the Department of  
10 Education and Early Development.

11 (g) The legislative staff of the members of the task force shall serve as staff for the  
12 task force. The task force may hire staff and contract for services necessary to carry out the  
13 duties of the task force under the procedures adopted by the legislative council governing  
14 procurement of services, subject to the approval of the legislative council and the legislative  
15 council making funds available for that purpose.

16 (h) The task force expires on January 31, 2026.

17 \* **Sec. 32.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
18 read:

19 REPORT ON REGULATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS. The Department of  
20 Education and Early Development shall prepare a report recommending regulatory and  
21 statutory changes to reduce the regulatory burden on school districts. The department shall  
22 submit the report to the senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of representatives not  
23 later than the first day of the Second Regular Session of the Thirty-Fourth Alaska State  
24 Legislature and notify the members of the legislature that the report is available.

25 \* **Sec. 33.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
26 read:

27 APPLICABILITY. Sections 9 - 14 of this Act apply to a contract that becomes legally  
28 binding on or after the effective date of secs. 9 - 14 of this Act.

29 \* **Sec. 34.** Sections 2 and 30 of this Act take effect July 1, 2028.

30 \* **Sec. 35.** Section 19 of this Act takes effect on the effective date of sec. 23, ch. 40, SLA  
31 2022.

- 1     \* **Sec. 36.** Section 24 of this Act takes effect June 30, 2034.
- 2     \* **Sec. 37.** Except as provided in secs. 34 - 36 of this Act, this Act takes effect July 1, 2025.