

34-LS0332\G
Bergerud
3/19/25

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 98()

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

BY

**Offered:
Referred:**

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE FIELDS

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

"An Act relating to maximum classroom sizes in public schools; relating to the duties of school districts and governing bodies of school districts; and providing for an effective date."

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

*** Section 1.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 14.03.065. Maximum classroom size. (a) Except for an art, library, music, computer science, student government, or physical education course, the maximum number of students a public school may place in a classroom is 15 for kindergarten through grade three and 25 for grades four through 12.

(b) The maximum classroom size required under this section does not apply

(1) during a fiscal year in which the governing body of a district determines in writing that the legislature has not appropriated sufficient money to the district to implement the requirements of this section; a decision of a governing body under this paragraph is final and may not be appealed to the superior court;

1 (2) if the governing body of a district determines in writing that
2 compliance with the maximum classroom sizes required under (a) of this section
3 would hinder the ability of the district to best educate its students, given available
4 funding; or

5 (3) in a district with an average daily membership of 35,000 or less.

6 (c) A district shall, by February 1 of each year, provide on the district's
7 Internet website notice to the public of the number of students in each classroom for
8 each grade level at each school in the district for the current school year.

9 (d) In this section,

10 (1) "average daily membership" has the meaning given in
11 AS 14.17.990;

12 (2) "district" has the meaning given in AS 14.17.990.

13 * **Sec. 2.** AS 14.03.120 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

14 (k) A district shall, by February 1 of each year, report to the department the
15 number of students placed in each classroom in each grade level for the current school
16 year.

17 * **Sec. 3.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
18 read:

19 **TRANSITION: CLASSROOM SIZES.** Before July 1, 2028, notwithstanding
20 AS 14.03.065, enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, the number of students a public school may place
21 into a classroom may be higher than the number required under AS 14.03.065, enacted by sec.
22 1 of this Act, if the number of students in the present classroom has declined by two or more
23 when compared to students in the same classroom and grade in the previous school year.

24 * **Sec. 4.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2025.