

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2015 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 84  
Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier: SB084-EED-SSA-4-10-15  
Title: LANG. IMMERSION SCHOOLS/TEACHER  
CERTS.  
Sponsor: OLSON  
Requester: Senate Education Committee

Department: Department of Education and Early Development  
Appropriation: Teaching and Learning Support  
Allocation: Student and School Achievement  
OMB Component Number: 2796

## Expenditures/Revenues

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

	FY2016 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2016 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	FY 2016	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	***		***	***	***	***	***
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
<b>Total Operating</b>	***	<b>0.0</b>	***	***	***	***	***

## Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
<b>Total</b>	***	<b>0.0</b>	***	***	***	***	***

## Positions

Full-time	1.0		1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Part-time							
Temporary							

<b>Change in Revenues</b>							
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**Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2015) cost:** 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*  
*(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)*

**Estimated CAPITAL (FY2016) cost:** 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*  
*(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If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 06/30/16

## Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Not applicable, initial version

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Division:	Teaching and Learning Support	Date:	04/10/2015 02:37 PM
Approved By:	Mike Hanley, Commissioner	Date:	04/10/15
Agency:	Department of Education & Early Development		

## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 84

### Analysis

Section 1 amends AS 14.03.255, Organization and operation of a charter school, (c) by adding: (15) a clause requiring compliance with AS 14.03.257 if the charter school is a language immersion charter school.

Section 2 amends AS 14.03, Public Schools Generally, by adding a new section AS 14.03.257, Language immersion charter schools, that defines what requirements must be met in order to be considered a language immersion charter school; such as, teachers must possess an “indigenous or foreign language immersion endorsement.”

Section 3 amends AS 14.20, Teachers and School Personnel, by adding a new section AS 14.20.021, Teachers at language immersion charter schools. This requires the department to issue indigenous or foreign language immersion endorsements to a person who meets four requirements.

Section 4 amends AS 14.20.025, Limited teacher certificates, by removing the ability to teach Alaska Native Languages with a limited certificate. The bill also removes the ability of the board to require additional academic training under limited teacher certificates.

Section 5 amends AS 14.20.025, Limited teacher certificates, by adding a new subsection (b) and (c). (b) of this section defines the period of time a limited certificate may be valid. Initially, one year with and an optional four year extension based on meeting certain criteria. (c) states that “the board may not require, as a condition for extending or renewing a limited certificate under (b) of this section, that a person complete additional academic training.”

Section 6 amends AS 14.20, Teachers and school personnel, by adding a new section AS 14.20.026, Limited teacher certificates for language teachers. This section authorizes the board to issue limited teacher certificates for language teachers when there are insufficient number of teachers available to a person who meet four specific criteria. Certificates issued under this section are valid under the same criteria as Section 5, AS 14.20.025, as amended.

Section 7 amends AS 14.20, Teachers and school personnel, by adding a new section AS 14.20.028, Recognition of teacher certification for Alaska Native language immersion teachers by Alaska Native tribes. This allows Alaska Native tribes to issue teacher certification for language immersion. The Alaska Native tribe must submit to the department their certification procedures, but it is not approved by the department.

Sections 3 through 7 would require a Project Coordinator to have independent and overall authority over this review at DEED. Project Coordinator = \$131.2; plus \$9.5 department chargebacks for a total cost of \$140.7.

Section 8 amends AS 14.30, Pupils and educational programs for pupils, by adding a new section AS 14.30.430, Testing in language immersion educational programs. “The department shall, to the extent permitted by federal law, allow students enrolled in language immersion charter schools established under AS 14.03.257 or other language immersion programs to take statewide standards-based assessments in the language of instruction of the language immersion charter school or language immersion program.”

The fiscal note is indeterminate because currently the number of programs that fall under this bill is unknown, and an assessment would need to be developed for each language represented. The cost of the assessment development for each program would be significant as many of the languages approach words within the language differently and a simple translation will not be appropriate. The administration of the assessment will also have ongoing costs based on the number of different languages as each may require specific scoring protocols and scorers who know each language for open ended items.