

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senator Gary Stevens

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

SENATE BILL 30 (Version U)

Middle Colleges

- Sec. 1: Amends current statute regarding an annual report submitted to the legislature by the state board of education and early development, to include in that report a current summary of middle college activity in the state.
- Sec. 2: Adds a new Article 15 to AS 14.30 (Educational Programs For Pupils) regarding Dual Credit.
- AS 14.30.780 (A) Establishes a Middle College program for eligible students in high school to enroll in courses at the University of Alaska, and to earn credit toward a college degree as well as credit toward high school graduation.
- (B) Establishes some baseline eligibility requirements for students to be enrolled in a public school, be in the 11th or 12th grade, to not have already received a high school diploma, and otherwise meet minimum requirements set in regulation.
- (C) Requires every school district in the state to participate in the middle college program, making dual credit available to eligible students. Respective school districts shall pay course tuition. The student is responsible for all other expenses associated with the course, including fees, books, and transportation.
- (D) Holds harmless a school district's Average Daily Membership (ADM) calculation; students participating in the middle college program are to still be counted toward the respective school district's ADM.
- (E) Allows the University of Alaska and individual school districts to share student transcript information for purposes of determining program eligibility and satisfactory course completion.
- (F) Aligns the existing definition of "school district" as set in AS 14.30.350, meaning a borough school district, a city school district, a regional educational attendance area (REAA), a state boarding school, and the state centralized correspondence study program.
- Sec. 3: Amends AS 14.40.040(a), relating to the general powers and duties of the University of Alaska, to allow for the UA system to enter into agreements with school districts in the state for purposes of carrying out the Middle College program.