

2020 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

OFFERED IN: The House Finance Subcommittee

TO: HB 205

OFFERED BY: Representative Zulkosky

DEPARTMENT: Education and Early Development

APPROPRIATION: Alaska State Libraries, Archives and Museums

ALLOCATION: Online with Libraries (OWL)

RECOMMENDED LANGUAGE:

It is the intent of the legislature that the Department of Education and Early Development evaluate cost-efficiency measures that preserve access to the Alaska Online with Libraries (OWL) Program; considering the use of alternative equipment or technologies that accommodate equitable access to the video conference system, while saving unrestricted general funds.

It is also the intent of the legislature that the Department of Education and Early Development consult with all users of the Alaska Online with Libraries (OWL) Program to evaluate implications of eliminating the video conference services. The Department of Education and Early Development shall ensure that if the Alaska Online with Libraries (OWL) Program is eliminated, then alternative equipment or technology is provided. The Department of Education and Early Development shall prepare a report summarizing the results from those consultations and the proposed cost-efficiency measures and submit the report to the Finance co-chairs, and the Legislative Finance Division on or before January 1, 2021, and notify the legislature that the report is available.

EXPLANATION: Because it is the intent of the Subcommittee to recommend to the full House Finance Committee the preservation of statewide access to video conference systems.