



Representative Harriet Drummond  
**Sponsor Statement**

# HB 153: Alaska Reads Act

## Explanation of Changes

*CS House Bill 153 (EDU)*

*Version: 31-LS0928\U*

**Page 1, Lines 1-8:** Amends Act title. (HEDU)

**Page 1, Lines 10-12:** Establishes Act Short Title. (HEDU)

**Page 2, Lines 3-5:** Clarifies that an early education program is approved or supervised by DEED. (HEDU)

**Page 2, Lines 12-21:** Inserts AS 14.03.072(a), which establishes the importance of early reading. (HEDU)

**Pages 2-3, Lines 22-19:** Amends AS 14.03.078(a) which directs DEED to include information collected under AS 14.03.120 and AS 14.30-760 – 14.30.775 in their annual report to the legislature. (HEDU)

**Page 3, Lines 20-25:** Amends AS 14.03.080(d) by changing the date a student is eligible to enter kindergarten and establishes an eligibility waiver process. (HEDU)

**Page 3, Lines 26-29:** Amends AS 14.03.080(g) by changing the date a child is eligible to enter a public early education program. (HEDU)

**Pages 3-4, Lines 30-25:** Inserts AS 14.03.120 and creates a new subsection (h) that requires each district to report specific information, include class size, student improvement, and number and percentages of students retained to DEED. (HEDU)

**Pages 4-13, Lines 26-13:** Amends AS 14.03 by adding a new article, Article 4. Early Education. Changes to this section include redefining early education grant eligibility pools for districts, establishing AS 14.03.420, Parent as Teachers, establishes a DEED reading program and a DEED school improvement program, redefines an early education program means a program and not

a school, allowing DEED to purchase supplemental reading materials for districts, updates regulations that establish standards for early education programs, inserts AS 14.20.015(c) which amends credentialing requirements for elementary school teachers, and amend AS 14.20.020 by adding subsection (l) to include evidence-based reading instruction three credit or equivalency requirements for obtaining a preliminary teacher certificate. (HEDU)

**Pages 13-24, Lines 13-7:** Establishes AS 14.30 Article 15. Reading Intervention Programs. (HEDU)

**Page 24, Lines 10-15:** Section 19 replaces Section 10 of the original bill. (HEDU)

**Page 24, Line 16:** Amends AS 14.03.410 repeal date to July 1, 2031. (HEDU)

**Page 24-25, Lines 17-11:** Inserts new uncodified law of the State of Alaska to establish a Teacher Retention Working Group. (HEDU)

**Page 25, Lines 14-18:** Inserts applicability language. (HEDU)

**Page 25, Lines 19-24:** Inserts transition language. (HEDU)

**Page 25, Line 25:** Establishes effective date of July 1, 2020. (HEDU)