

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

## Senate Education Committee

### **Senator Roger Holland, Chair**

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Senator Tom Begich

## **SENATE BILL 111**

*EARLY EDUCATION, READING INTERVENTION, VIRTUAL CONSORTIUM*

### **REQUESTED CHANGES FOR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE**

- Change #1:** Insert “culturally responsive” language into four additional places and defines the term
- Change #2:** Add an annual report for the Parents-as-Teachers program.
- Change #3:** Remove any confusion in the carry-forward provisions by:
- Deleting section 23 from version W
  - Increasing carryover limit from 10% to 25% immediately
  - Allowing for additional carryover (greater than 25%) with departmental approval
- Change #4:** Create consistency in teacher certificate requirements by inserting language from section 32 into section 30.
- Change #5:** Clarifies the early education regulations to be written by the state board of education by:
- Defining the “federal standards” added in AS 14.07.165(a)(5)(A)
  - Shifting the day-in-session requirements from AS 14.03.040 to the board’s discretion
- Change #6:** Adjust the language regarding ADM inclusion for early education students and funding to allow the department to make partial program approvals and clarify approval should work from the bottom of the ranking list toward the top.

- Change #7:** Adjust the language regarding early education grant programs by:
- Replacing the limit on the number of districts with a \$3M annual funding limit
  - Requiring coordination with Head Start programs before starting a new program
- Change #8:** Clarifying that it is up to the parents and districts to decide the proper placement of four- and five-year-old students participating in early education or kindergarten programs
- Change #9:** Create consistency in the use of the phrase “evidence-based reading instruction”
- Change #10:** Use consistent language regarding progress-based promotion to the next grade level and clarifying the promotion process and policies by:
- Replacing the words “retained” and “retention” throughout the bill
  - Adjusting AS 14.30.765(d) and (f) to be clearer about parental promotion rights
  - Changing (e) to provide more flexibility to districts in developing a fourth-grade promotion policy
  - Deleting sections 34 and 35 from version W
- Change #11:** Account for the potential illiteracy of parents or guardians when requiring notification to parents
- Change #12:** Add language that encourages parents to be more actively involved in their child’s reading improvement plan
- Change #13:** When a parent does not participate, shift responsibility for promotion decisions to the superintendent or designee
- Change #14:** Establish a roadmap for mid-year promotion, if requested
- Change #15:** Align the sunset dates, incorporate all the bill’s changes in the sunset, and establish a required report to the legislature prior to sunset date