

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senator Gary Stevens

SENATE BILL 72 *Civics Education in Alaska Schools*

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS *(Version N)*

- Sec. 1: AS 14.03.076, relating to public schools, adds a new section
- a. directing the State Board of Education & Early Development (SBOE) to develop curriculum and a related assessment based on the civics portion of the naturalization examination administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for immigrants seeking U.S. citizenship. The curriculum and assessment must also include systems of Alaska Tribal government;
 - b. requiring students to pass the assessment established in (a) above in order to receive a high school diploma, with exceptions for students with a disability and who receive a waiver from their local school board;
 - c. schools are to document on student transcripts when a student has passed the assessment, with the option for the student to retake the assessment;
 - d. districts are required to report annually on their respective civics course offerings and overall average student score on the assessment; and
 - e. a passing score is defined as correctly answering 60% or more on the civics assessment.
- Section 2: AS 14.07.168, relating to reporting requirements of the SBOE, to include in their annual report to the legislature a description of civics education curriculum in the state, of civics-related course offerings in respective districts, and of student performance on the assessment described in section 1, by district.
- Section 3: Provides for an effective date of July 1, 2022.