

2022 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

OFFERED IN: The House Finance DEED Subcommittee

TO: HB 281 / HB 282

OFFERED BY: Representative Hopkins

DEPARTMENT: Department of Education and Early Development

APPROPRIATION: K-12 Aid to School Districts

ALLOCATION: Foundation Program

ADD:

EXPLANATION:

Other subcommittee action:

Recommendation to full finance committee:

Language appropriation

\$50,000,000, General Funds (UGF), 1004, Grants Line 7000

Funds to increment the Base Student Allocation to support school districts efforts to maintain student learning opportunities, maintenance, operations, and ongoing expenses.

2022 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

OFFERED IN: The House Finance DEED Subcommittee

TO: HB 281

OFFERED BY: Representative Story

DEPARTMENT: Education and Early Development

APPROPRIATION: Education Support and Administrative Services

ALLOCATION: Pre-Kindergarten Grants

ADD: \$2,500.0, IncT (FY23-FY24), General Funds (UGF) 1004, Grants Line 7000

EXPLANATION: The DEED subcommittee recommends a temporary two-year increment to Pre-K Grants.

Too many children arrive to kindergarten unprepared. DEED reports that 68% of students entering kindergarten are not coming to school with the skills they need to be successful as they enter kindergarten.

Data from some of Alaska's school district operated pre-K programs show that high quality pre-K programs significantly increase children's readiness for kindergarten and success in school.

To address the State Board of Education goal of all children reading at grade level by the end of 3rd grade, an investment is needed prior to kindergarten to ensure more students come to school ready and eager to learn.

This increment provides two-year grant awards to school districts to support high quality, voluntary pre-K programs in communities across Alaska.

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OFFERED IN: The House Finance Subcommittee

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OFFERED BY: Representative Hopkins

DEPARTMENT: Department of Education and Early Development

APPROPRIATION: Alaska Postsecondary Education

ALLOCATION: WWAMI Medical Education

ADD: Intent language:

It is the intent of the legislature that the Department of Education and Early Development, Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) work to expand the number of seats for Alaska in the WWAMI program from 20 to 30, for implementation in FY24. Further, ACPE and the University of Alaska shall coordinate and plan for their separate and combined needs for the program expansion, and report to the legislature by December 20, 2022, policy, program, and budget needs for implementation of this expansion.

EXPLANATION: This language is to allow time for planning and collaboration so that the implementation of increased seats will be able to use allocations of funding in the future. The complicated nature of WWAMI expansion requires planning of at least a year in advance to ensure that resources are available.