

SENATE BILL NO. 72

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATORS STEVENS, Begich, Hughes, Micciche, Myers, Revak, Stedman, Kawasaki, Costello, von Imhof, Hoffman, Bishop, Shower

Introduced: 2/5/21

Referred: Education, Community & Regional Affairs

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to civics education, civics examinations, and secondary school**
2 **graduation requirements; and providing for an effective date."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 *** Section 1.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 14.03.076. Civics examination requirement.** (a) A school may not issue
6 a secondary school diploma to a student unless the student

7 (1) receives a score of at least 60 percent on an examination consisting
8 of, at a minimum, the 128 questions of the civics portion of the naturalization test used
9 by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Department of
10 Homeland Security under 8 U.S.C. 1446(b); or

11 (2) is a student with a disability and receives a waiver from the
12 governing body.

13 (b) If a student meets the examination requirement in (a)(1) of this section, a
14 school shall document on the student's transcript that the student has received a

1 passing score on the examination.

2 * **Sec. 2.** AS 14.07.168 is amended to read:

3 **Sec. 14.07.168. Report to the legislature.** Not later than the 30th legislative
4 day of each regular session of the legislature, the board shall prepare and present in
5 person to the legislative committees having jurisdiction over education an annual
6 report that describes the efforts of the board to develop, maintain, and continuously
7 improve a comprehensive quality public education system, as provided for under the
8 bylaws of the board. The report must include

9 (1) a summary of the resolves and rationales provided in support of
10 policy decisions made under AS 14.03.015;

11 (2) program and curriculum changes made, discussed, or
12 recommended in meetings held under AS 14.07.125;

13 (3) additional information relevant to efforts made to improve and
14 maintain the public education system;

15 **(4) a description of the civics education curriculum in the state**
16 **public school system and the passage rate of the examination required by**
17 **AS 14.03.076.**

18 * **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2022.