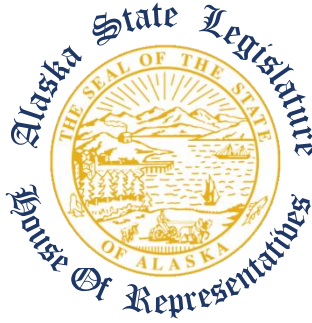


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## **House Bill 6**

### **Sponsor Statement**

*“An Act relating to the duties of the Department of Education and Early Development; relating to public education; relating to opioid abuse awareness and prevention; and providing for an effective date.”*

House Bill 6 addresses the need to better educate the youth in Alaska on the dangers of opioid misuse. Many communities around Alaska are feeling the impacts of the rising misuse of opioids and an increase in fentanyl related deaths.

This legislation would instruct the Department of Education and Early Development to put in place a 60-minute curriculum that would cover opioid abuse awareness and prevention. This curriculum would be for students grades six through 12 and would cover information about the dangers of using opioids, awareness of opioids that target children, and early warning signs related to opioid addiction, among other things.

The department would also be directed to consult with other entities around the state that have experience in dealing with opioid related problems. Some of these groups would include The Department of Health, state and tribal entities, and family members of individuals who had an opioid overdose.

House Bill 6 will educate our kids on the dangers of opioid use and help prepare them to deal with this ever-growing danger in Alaska.

If you have additional questions, please contact Ryan McKee in my office at 907-465-4859.