

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Official Business

CS for Senate Bill 29: Civics Education Changes from initial version (“U” to “R”)

Two main changes:

- 1) Remove the creation of a new “Alaska Civics Education Commission.” This was a 12-member commission chaired by the Lieutenant Governor. The original bill included provisions for the makeup of this commission, their duties, meeting expectations, and expenses. The board was to have made annual recommendations in a report to the legislature.
- 2) The effective date of the bill is moved forward one year, from July 1, 2023 to July 1, 2024.

What the bill still does:

- 1) Requires the state board of education to develop and review a statewide civics education curriculum and assessment. The curriculum would be based on the naturalization examination used by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. It and would also include systems of government used by Alaska Natives.
- 2) A high school diploma would require completion of one semester of civics education using this curriculum and passing the statewide assessment exam.