

Alaska State Legislature

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Session: Capitol Room 106
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House Education Committee

HB 148

Summary of Changes

"An Act relating to the Alaska performance scholarship program."

Ver B to Committee Substitute

Section 1 AS 14.43.820(a) amends:

(a)(2) adds "and" to the end of the subsection.

(a)(4) this subsection is deleted.

Section 3 AS 14.43.820

Subsection (h) Not later than January 15 of each year, a district shall provide to each student in the district who is enrolled in grade nine or grade 10 information about the Alaska performance scholarship (APS). This subsection ensures that students receive information about the APS program earlier in their high school career, and may positively influence their curriculum choices and decision to attend an Alaska postsecondary institution.

Subsection (j) requires the district to provide information about the requirements to increase an award level ("step-up provision") under AS 14.43.825(g) and (h) whenever Alaska performance scholarship information is communicated to a student.

(l) (1)(B) Added "or" which allows the student to use either their (i) GPA or (ii) score on a college entrance examination. Many students in Alaska, including those living in rural locations, are not able to take the SAT/ACT as it may be cost prohibitive or geographically inaccessible. Sections in this legislation now allow a student to use either their GPA or college entrance examination score to determine the APS level they can achieve.

Reletter (k)(l), insert (m)

Section 4 AS 14.13.825(a)

AS 14.43.825(a)(1), (2), and (3) added "or" after each (A) subsection which allows the use of either the GPA or score on a college entrance examination when determining the APS award level earned.

Section 6 AS 14.43.825

Page 4 Subsection (g)

This section is related to the “step-up” provision, which is a new feature for the Alaska performance scholarship program. The “step-up” addition allows a student to qualify for a higher APS level based upon their college GPA versus the GPA level they achieved while in High School. Language clarifies the postsecondary institution will review student grades and notify the commission, and the commission will make notification to the student for any award level increase. Language defines full-time enrollment.

(h)(1), (h)(2) Subsections specify the GPA and the respective APS award amounts under the “step-up” provision.

(i), (j)(2) It is recognized that not all APS qualified postsecondary institutions operate under the four-point grading scale such as AVTEC. The intent is for the commission to establish an equivalent rating to ensure students in certificate programs, for example, also have the opportunity to qualify for a “step-up” in the APS award level.