

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 29(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/24/23

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATORS STEVENS, Tobin, Giessel, Bjorkman, Claman, Bishop, Stedman, Kaufman, Gray-Jackson, Hughes, Dunbar, Wielechowski, Kawasaki

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to civics education, civics assessments, 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 curriculum and assessment requirement.** (a) The
6 board shall develop and periodically review a statewide civics education curriculum
7 and assessment that are based on the civics portion of the naturalization examination
8 used by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Department of
9 Homeland Security and primary source documents. The curriculum and assessment
10 must also include systems of government used by Alaska Natives. A district may use
11 the curriculum to educate students in civics.

12 (b) A school may not issue a secondary school diploma to a student unless the
13 student

14 (1) has completed one semester of a civics education course taught

1 using the curriculum developed under (a) of this section;

2 (2) has achieved a passing score on the civics assessment developed
3 under (a) of this section; or

4 (3) is a student with a disability and receives a waiver from the
5 governing body.

6 (c) If a student has achieved a passing score on the civics assessment
7 developed under (a) of this section, the school shall document on the student's
8 transcript that the student achieved a passing score. A student may retake the
9 assessment as needed to achieve a passing score.

10 (d) In this section, "passing score" means a student correctly answers 70
11 percent or more of the questions.

12 * **Sec. 2.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2024.