

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senator Gary Stevens

CS for SENATE BILL 29 (FIN)

Civics Education in Alaska Schools

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS (Version N)

- Sec. 1: AS 14.03.076, relating to public schools, adds a new section
- a. directing the State Board of Education & Early Development (SBOE) to develop curriculum and assessments relating to comparative government and civics education. There is directed to be a written assessment based on the civics portion of the naturalization examination administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for immigrants seeking U.S. citizenship. There is also directed for there to be a project-based assessment as an option for demonstrating proficient knowledge of comparative governments and civics. The curriculum and assessment must also include systems of Alaska Tribal government;
 - b. directs there to be included in the comparative government curriculum and related assessment, an examination of historic communist systems of government, and specifies a detailed list of regimes, revolutions, and the leaders of those political movements to be studied;
 - c. in order to receive a high school diploma, requires students to complete a semester course taught using the curriculum, and to either to
 - i. pass the written assessment established in (a) above;
 - ii. complete a project-based assessment established in (a) above; or
 - iii. is exempted as a student with a disability who receives a waiver from their local school board;
 - d. provides exemptions for students transferring into a school district from within the state as a junior or senior, or if from another state and has completed a state history course while in that state;
 - e. schools are to document on student transcripts when a student has passed the assessment, with the option for the student to retake the assessment repeatedly;
 - f. a passing score is defined as correctly answering or performing at least 70% of the assessment results.

Sec. 2: Establishes an effective date of July 1, 2025.