

HOUSE BILL NO. 55

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES B.DAVIS, Robinson

Introduced: 1/16/95

Referred: State Affairs, Health, Education and Social Services, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act imposing a maximum pupil-teacher ratio in public schools; and providing**
2 **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. 14.03.065. MAXIMUM EFFECTIVE CLASS SIZE. (a) In a public
6 school class, other than an art, typing, library, music, vocational-technical, or physical
7 education class, the ratio of pupils to a teacher may not exceed 15 to 1 in a class in
8 grades K - 3, 20 to 1 in a class in grades 4 - 6, and 25 to 1 in a class in grades 7 - 12.

9 (b) The pupil-teacher ratio required under this section does not apply

10 (1) during the final eight weeks of each school year; or

11 (2) in a fiscal year in which the legislature has not appropriated
12 sufficient money to implement the requirements of this section.

13 (c) A district shall annually report to the department the district's ratio of
14 pupils to a teacher in each class if the district is required to meet the ratio set out in

1 (a) of this section. The ratio reported shall be the average of the daily ratio taken over
2 the same period in October used to determine average daily membership under
3 AS 14.17.160.

4 (d) In this section, "teacher" means a person who is certified under
5 AS 14.20.020 and who is an actual classroom teacher in a regular instructional
6 program.

7 * **Sec. 2.** TRANSITION. Before July 1, 1998, notwithstanding AS 14.03.065, enacted in
8 sec. 1 of this Act, the ratio of pupils to a teacher in a class may be higher than the ratio
9 required under AS 14.03.065, enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, if the actual number of pupils in
10 the present class has declined by two or more when compared to pupils in the same class and
11 grade in the previous school year.

12 * **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect July 1, 1995.