

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 535(HES)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/3/96

Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): HOUSE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to postsecondary education; and providing for an effective  
2 date."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 \* **Section 1.** AS 08.02.025(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) A person licensed under this title shall comply with the student loan  
6 repayment provisions under AS 14.43 that are applicable to the person.  
7 Notwithstanding another provision of law, a license issued to a person under this title  
8 may not be renewed if the licensee [BORROWER] and the department  
9 [DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT] have  
10 received notice from the Alaska Student Loan Corporation [COMMISSION ON  
11 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION] that the licensee is in default on a student loan  
12 provided to the licensee. This action may be taken no sooner than 60 days after the  
13 Alaska Student Loan Corporation [COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY  
14 EDUCATION] has notified the licensee [BORROWER] of the default status of the

1 loan as provided under AS 14.43.120(i). If a licensee's [AN] appeal of a  
2 determination of default status is pending [ON BEHALF OF THE LICENSEE], the  
3 Alaska Student Loan Corporation [COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY  
4 EDUCATION] shall notify the department and the department [RENEWAL] may not  
5 deny renewal [BE DENIED] under this section until and unless the [APPEAL HAS  
6 BEEN CONCLUDED AND THE] default status has been affirmed on appeal. The  
7 denial [DENIAL] of renewal of a license shall continue until the department  
8 [DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT] receives  
9 notice from the Alaska Student Loan Corporation [COMMISSION ON  
10 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION] that the licensee is no longer in default on the  
11 student loan.

12 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 14.40.170(b) is amended to read:

13 (b) The Board of Regents may

14 (1) adopt reasonable rules, orders, and plans with reasonable penalties for  
15 the good government of the university and for the regulation of the Board of Regents;

16 (2) determine and regulate the course of instruction in the university with  
17 the advice of the president;

18 (3) set student tuition and fees;

19 (4) receive and spend university receipts in accordance with AS 37.07  
20 ([THE] Executive Budget Act);

21 (5) enter into agreements with government or postsecondary  
22 education officials of this state or other states to provide postsecondary educational  
23 services and programs to residents of this state pursuing a medical education; an  
24 agreement with another state must be limited to services and programs that are  
25 unavailable in this state [(AS 37.07)].

26 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 14.42.100 is amended to read:

27 Sec. 14.42.100. CREATION OF ALASKA STUDENT LOAN  
28 CORPORATION. The [THERE IS CREATED THE] Alaska Student Loan  
29 Corporation is created as [. THE CORPORATION IS] a public corporation and  
30 government instrumentality within the Department of Revenue [EDUCATION] but  
31 having a legal existence independent of and separate from the state. The corporation  
32 may not be terminated as long as it has outstanding bonds, notes, or other obligations

1 [OUTSTANDING]. Upon termination of the corporation, its rights and property pass  
2 to the state.

3 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 14.42.120 is repealed and reenacted to read:

4 Sec. 14.42.120. CORPORATION GOVERNING BODY. (a) The corporation  
5 shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of the commissioner of revenue,  
6 the commissioner of administration, a person representing the department appointed  
7 by the governor, and four members of the public appointed by the governor. The  
8 governor's appointees shall serve at the pleasure of the governor for four-year  
9 staggered terms.

10 (b) Two members of the legislature shall serve as ex officio nonvoting  
11 members of the board of directors. The two ex officio nonvoting members shall  
12 include one member of the senate appointed by the president of the senate and one  
13 member of the house appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

14 (c) A full-time postsecondary student shall serve as a nonvoting member of the  
15 board of directors. The governor shall appoint the student member from a list of  
16 nominees within 60 days after it is submitted. The list must consist of the names of  
17 two nominees from Alaska Pacific University, two nominees from Sheldon Jackson  
18 College, and two nominees from each campus of the University of Alaska. The  
19 nominees shall be selected from a student election held on each campus. Elections  
20 under this subsection shall be held concurrently with student regent elections required  
21 under AS 14.40.150(b) and conducted under rules established by the Office of the  
22 Governor. The term of office of the student member is two years beginning June 1  
23 of the year in which the appointment is made. Membership on the corporation is  
24 immediately forfeited by a student member who ceases to be a full-time student.  
25 Within 60 days after a vacancy occurs, the governor shall appoint a successor from  
26 those students appearing on the list of nominees to serve for the unexpired term of the  
27 original appointee. The term "campus" used in this subsection means a portion of the  
28 University of Alaska designated as a "campus" by the Board of Regents.

29 (d) A governing body member, trustee, official, or employee of a public,  
30 private, or proprietary institution of postsecondary or higher education in the state may  
31 not be appointed to membership on the corporation as representative of the general

1 public for the purpose of (a) of this section.

2 (e) Members of the board serve without compensation, but the voting members  
3 who are not state employees and the student member are entitled to per diem and  
4 travel expenses authorized for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180.

5 (f) Each year, the board shall elect a chair from among its voting membership.  
6 A majority of the voting members constitute a quorum for organizing the board,  
7 conducting board business, and exercising the powers of the corporation.

8 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 14.42.160 is repealed and reenacted to read:

9 Sec. 14.42.160. EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND STAFF; ADMINISTRATION.

10 (a) The corporation may appoint an executive director as the corporation's executive  
11 officer. The executive officer is a member of the exempt service under AS 39.25.110,  
12 serves at the pleasure of the corporation, and receives compensation fixed by the  
13 corporation. The executive officer appoints persons to the staff positions authorized  
14 by the corporation, and staff compensation is fixed by the corporation. Each employee  
15 of the corporation shall participate as a member of the public employees' retirement  
16 system (AS 39.35).

17 (b) The corporation is not a division in the Department of Revenue. The  
18 corporation, members of the corporation, the executive officer, and staff are in the  
19 Department of Revenue for administrative support services only, and they are not  
20 subject to the direction of the commissioner of revenue.

21 (c) Subject to review by the corporation, the executive director shall administer  
22 the student loan and grant programs under AS 14.43.

23 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 14.42 is amended by adding a new section to read:

24 Sec. 14.42.180. LEGAL COUNSEL. The attorney general is legal counsel for  
25 the corporation. The attorney general shall advise the corporation in legal matters  
26 arising in the discharge of its duties and represent the corporation in actions to which  
27 it is a party. If, in the opinion of the corporation, the public interest is not adequately  
28 represented by counsel in a proceeding, the attorney general, upon request of the  
29 corporation, shall represent the public interest.

30 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 14.42 is amended by adding a new section to read:

31 Sec. 14.42.195. FUNCTIONS OF THE CORPORATION. (a) The corporation

1 shall administer the student loan fund under AS 14.42.210 and the student loan and  
2 grant programs under AS 14.43.

3 (b) The corporation may adopt regulations under AS 44.62 (Administrative  
4 Procedure Act) to carry out the purposes of AS 14.43.

5 \* **Sec. 8.** AS 14.42.200(10) is amended to read:

6 (10) gather information on student loans available to residents of  
7 Alaska and disseminate the information to reasonably assure that qualified residents  
8 are aware of financial resources available to those attending or desiring to attend  
9 institutions for which loans may be made under AS 14.43.100 - 14.43.325 [AS  
10 14.43.090 - 14.43.325], 14.43.600 - 14.43.700, or 14.43.710 - 14.43.790;

11 \* **Sec. 9.** AS 14.42.210(a) is amended to read:

12 (a) The student loan fund is established in the corporation. The student loan  
13 fund is a trust fund to be used to carry out the purposes of AS 14.42.100 - 14.42.390,  
14 AS 14.43.100 - 14.43.325 [AS 14.43.090 - 14.43.325], 14.43.600 - 14.43.700, and  
15 14.43.710 - 14.43.790. The fund consists of money or assets appropriated or  
16 transferred to the corporation for the fund and money or assets deposited in it by the  
17 corporation. The corporation may establish separate accounts in the fund **and shall**  
18 **establish separate accounts for the teacher scholarship revolving loan account**  
19 **under AS 14.43.620 and the family education loan account under AS 14.43.720.**

20 \* **Sec. 10.** AS 14.42.210(b) is amended to read:

21 (b) Money and other assets of the student loan fund may be used to secure  
22 bonds of the corporation, invested in student loans and investments under  
23 AS 37.10.071, and used to **make** [PURCHASE] loans approved under AS 14.43.090 -  
24 14.43.325, 14.43.600 - 14.43.700, or 14.43.710 - 14.43.790.

25 \* **Sec. 11.** AS 14.43.100 is amended to read:

26 Sec. 14.43.100. APPLICATIONS. (a) Applications shall be submitted to the  
27 executive director of the **corporation** [COMMISSION].

28 (b) A person whose loan application is not approved by the executive director  
29 of the **corporation** [COMMISSION] may appeal to the **corporation** [COMMISSION]  
30 and the **corporation** [COMMISSION] shall consider the application.

31 \* **Sec. 12.** AS 14.43.110, as amended by sec. 1, ch. 5, SLA 1996, is amended to read:

1           Sec. 14.43.110. STUDENT LOANS. (a) In a school year, the **corporation**  
2 [COMMISSION] may make a loan not to exceed

3           (1) \$8,500 to a full-time undergraduate student or **\$4,500** [\$5,000] to  
4 a half-time undergraduate student attending a college or university if the full- or half-  
5 time student is otherwise eligible under AS 14.43.125;

6           (2) \$9,500 to a full-time graduate student or **\$5,000** [\$4,500] to a  
7 half-time graduate student attending a college or university if the full- or half-time  
8 graduate student is otherwise eligible under AS 14.43.125;

9           (3) \$5,500 to a full-time student or \$2,000 to a half-time student if the  
10 full- or half-time student is attending a career education program [THAT IS AT  
11 LEAST SIX WEEKS IN LENGTH] and is otherwise eligible under AS 14.43.125.

12           (b) The **corporation** [COMMISSION] may make a loan for a summer term,  
13 even if the total loan for the school year exceeds the limit imposed under (a) of this  
14 section if the loan for the summer term is counted against the limit imposed under (a)  
15 of this section for the following school year.

16           (c) The **corporation** [COMMISSION] shall adopt regulations establishing a  
17 minimum amount for which a loan may be made.

18 \* **Sec. 13.** AS 14.43.120(b), as amended by sec. 3, ch. 5, SLA 1996, is amended to read:

19           (b) Scholarship loans may only be used to attend a

20           (1) career education program operating on a sound fiscal basis that has

21                   (A) operated for two years before the borrower attends; and

22                   (B) submitted an executed program participation agreement as  
23 required by the **corporation** [COMMISSION]; or

24           (2) a college or university that

25                   (A) has operated for at least two years before the borrower  
26 attends;

27                   (B) is accredited by a national or regional accreditation  
28 association recognized by the Council on **Recognition of** Postsecondary  
29 Accreditation or is approved by the **corporation** [COMMISSION];

30                   (C) if the loans are federally insured, is approved by the United  
31 States Secretary of Education;

1 (D) is a degree granting institution; and  
2 (E) has submitted an executed program participation agreement  
3 as required by the corporation [COMMISSION].

4 \* **Sec. 14.** AS 14.43.120(c), as amended by sec. 4, ch. 5, SLA 1996, is amended to read:

5 (c) To maintain a loan awarded to a full-time student, the student must  
6 continue to be enrolled as a full-time student in good standing in a career education  
7 program, college, or university that meets the requirements under (b) of this section.  
8 To maintain a loan awarded to a half-time student, the student must continue to be  
9 enrolled as a half-time student in good standing in (1) a career education program,  
10 college, or university in the state that meets the requirements under (b) of this section,  
11 or (2) a career education program, college, or university that meets the requirements  
12 under (b) of this section, and be physically present in this [THE] state while attending  
13 the career education program, college, or university. The corporation  
14 [COMMISSION] shall adopt regulations defining "good standing" for purposes of this  
15 subsection.

16 \* **Sec. 15.** AS 14.43.120(d), as amended by sec. 4, ch. 5, SLA 1996, is amended to read:

17 (d) Scholarship loans may not be made to a student  
18 (1) for more than a total of \$42,500 for undergraduate study;  
19 (2) for more than a total of \$47,500 for graduate study;  
20 (3) for more than a combined total of \$60,000 for undergraduate and  
21 graduate study;  
22 (4) to attend an institution, if the total amount of scholarship loans  
23 made to students to attend that institution exceeds \$100,000 and the default rate on  
24 those loans is (A) greater than 20 percent but less than 25 percent, and the institution  
25 is unable to reduce its default rate within 24 months after the rate determination; or  
26 (B) equal to or greater than 25 percent for two consecutive calendar years; for  
27 purposes of this paragraph, the default rate shall annually be determined by the  
28 corporation [COMMISSION] from loans required to be repaid under (g) of this  
29 section on or after July 1, 1996; if a scholarship loan is refused based on the  
30 provisions of this paragraph and, under a subsequent default rate determination [,] an  
31 institution's default rate does not exceed the limits established under this paragraph,

1 the **corporation** [COMMISSION] may not refuse to issue a scholarship loan to attend  
2 that institution based on the provisions of this paragraph.

3 \* **Sec. 16.** AS 14.43.120(f) is amended to read:

4 (f) Interest on a loan made under **AS 14.43.100 - 14.43.160** [AS 14.43.090 -  
5 14.43.160] is equal to the interest rate

6 (1) paid in each year on bonds issued by the **corporation** [ALASKA  
7 STUDENT LOAN CORPORATION] under AS 14.42.220; and

8 (2) necessary to pay the administrative cost of the student loan program  
9 that is represented by the loan.

10 \* **Sec. 17.** AS 14.43.120(g), as amended by sec. 6, ch. 5, SLA 1996, is amended to read:

11 (g) A borrower's obligation to commence repayment of the principal and  
12 interest on the loan begins six months after the borrower is no longer enrolled under  
13 (c) of this section. The borrower shall repay the total amount owed in periodic  
14 installments of at least \$50 a month over a period of not more than 15 years from the  
15 commencement of the repayment obligation. If the **corporation** [COMMISSION] and  
16 the borrower agree to a different repayment schedule, the borrower shall repay the loan  
17 in accordance with the agreement. A borrower may make payments earlier than  
18 required by this subsection or the agreement.

19 \* **Sec. 18.** AS 14.43.120(i), as amended by sec. 8, ch. 5, SLA 1996, is amended to read:

20 (i) If a loan is in default, the **corporation** [COMMISSION]

21 (1) shall notify the borrower that [, IF THE BORROWER HAS AN  
22 OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE ISSUED UNDER AS 08, THE LICENSE MAY NOT  
23 BE RENEWED UNDER AS 08.02.025 AND THAT] repayment of the remaining  
24 balance is accelerated and due **and that, if the borrower has an occupational license**  
25 **issued under AS 08, the license may not be renewed under AS 08.02.025,** by  
26 mailing the borrower a notice at the most recent address provided to the commission  
27 by the borrower;

28 (2) may take the borrower's permanent fund dividend under  
29 AS 43.23.065(b)(3) to satisfy the balance due on a defaulted loan; and

30 (3) shall provide notice of the default to the Department of Commerce  
31 and Economic Development, if the loan recipient is licensed under AS 08.

- 1 \* **Sec. 19.** AS 14.43.120(m), as amended by sec. 11, ch. 5, SLA 1996, is amended to read:  
2 (m) In case of hardship, the **corporation** [COMMISSION] may extend  
3 repayment of a loan for an additional period of up to five years.
- 4 \* **Sec. 20.** AS 14.43.120(r) is amended to read:  
5 (r) The rate of interest, time of payment of an installment of principal or  
6 interest, or other **loan** terms [OF A SCHOLARSHIP LOAN] may be modified if  
7 required to establish or maintain tax-exempt status under 26 U.S.C. 103 (Internal  
8 Revenue Code of 1986), as amended, for the interest on bonds issued by the  
9 **corporation** [ALASKA STUDENT LOAN CORPORATION].
- 10 \* **Sec. 21.** AS 14.43.120(t), as amended by sec. 13, ch. 5, SLA 1996, is amended to read:  
11 (t) Payment of interest under (l) of this section and forgiveness under (s) of  
12 this section are subject to appropriation by the legislature. Money obtained from the  
13 sale of bonds by the **corporation** [STUDENT LOAN CORPORATION] under  
14 AS 14.42.220 may not be appropriated for the payment of interest or the forgiveness  
15 of loans.
- 16 \* **Sec. 22.** AS 14.43.120(u), as amended by sec. 14, ch. 5, SLA 1996, is amended to read:  
17 (u) The **corporation** [COMMISSION] by regulation shall set a loan  
18 origination fee, not to exceed five percent of the total [SCHOLARSHIP] loan amount,  
19 to be assessed upon a [SCHOLARSHIP] loan that is funded from the student loan fund  
20 of the **corporation** [ALASKA STUDENT LOAN CORPORATION]. The loan  
21 origination fee shall be deducted at the time the loan is disbursed. Subject to  
22 appropriation, the loan origination fees shall be deposited into an origination fee  
23 account within the student loan fund of the **corporation** [ALASKA STUDENT LOAN  
24 CORPORATION], and subsequently used by the corporation to offset losses incurred  
25 as a result of death, disability, default, or bankruptcy of the borrower.
- 26 \* **Sec. 23.** AS 14.43.120(v) is amended to read:  
27 (v) In determining a rate of interest under (f)(2) of this section,  
28 (1) the **corporation** [COMMISSION] shall use a method that ensures  
29 that the rate of interest is as low as possible without precluding the ability of the  
30 **corporation** [COMMISSION] to administer loans made under **AS 14.43.100 -**  
31 **14.43.160** [AS 14.43.090 - 14.43.160]; and

1 (2) the total amount charged for administrative costs of the student loan  
2 program may not exceed two and one-half percent above the amount determined under  
3 (f)(1) of this section.

4 \* **Sec. 24.** AS 14.43.122(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) The **corporation** [COMMISSION] may offer **the option of consolidating**  
6 **into a single loan**

7 (1) **multiple loans made to** a borrower who has received more than  
8 one loan under this chapter [THE OPTION OF CONSOLIDATING THE MULTIPLE  
9 LOANS INTO A SINGLE LOAN]; or

10 (2) [TO CONSOLIDATE] loans made to married borrowers if the  
11 married borrowers agree to be jointly and severally liable for repayment of the  
12 consolidated loan [,] regardless of the borrowers' future marital status or the death of  
13 one of the borrowers.

14 \* **Sec. 25.** AS 14.43.125(a), as amended by sec. 15, ch. 5, SLA 1996, is amended to read:

15 (a) A person may apply for and obtain a **student** [SCHOLARSHIP] loan if the  
16 person

17 (1) is

18 (A) enrolled as a full-time student in a career education,  
19 associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degree program;

20 (B) enrolled as a half-time student in a career education,  
21 associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degree program

22 (i) in the state; or

23 (ii) out of the state and is physically present in this state

24 while attending that program; or

25 (C) a graduate of a high school or the equivalent, or scheduled  
26 for graduation from a high school within six months, with sufficient credits to  
27 be admitted to a career education program or to an accredited college or  
28 university;

29 (2) is not delinquent or in default on a previously awarded **student**  
30 [SCHOLARSHIP] loan; and

31 (3) is a resident of the state at the time of application for the loan; for

1 purposes of this section, a person qualifies as a resident of the state if at the time of  
2 application for the loan the person

3 (A) has been physically present in the state for at least one year  
4 immediately before the time of application for the loan;

5 (B) is dependent on a parent or guardian for care, the parent or  
6 guardian has been present in the state for at least one year immediately before  
7 the time of application for the loan, and the person has been present in the state  
8 for at least one year of the immediately preceding five years, except that the  
9 corporation [COMMISSION] may by a two-thirds vote, acting upon a written  
10 appeal by the person, grant an exemption to the requirement that the person has  
11 been present in the state for one year of the immediately preceding five years;

12 (C) has been physically present in the state for at least one year  
13 immediately before the applicant was absent from the state and the absence is  
14 due solely to

15 (i) serving an initial period of up to three years on active  
16 duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States;

17 (ii) serving for up to three years as a full-time volunteer  
18 under the Peace Corps Act;

19 (iii) serving for up to three years as a full-time volunteer  
20 under the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973;

21 (iv) required medical care for the applicant or the  
22 applicant's immediate family;

23 (v) being a person who otherwise qualifies as a resident  
24 and is accompanying a spouse who qualifies as a resident under (i) -  
25 (iv) of this paragraph;

26 (vi) an absence allowed under (D)(i)-(iv) of this  
27 paragraph; or

28 (D) is a dependent of a parent or guardian who has been  
29 physically present in the state for at least one year immediately before the  
30 parent or guardian was absent from the state and the absence is due solely to;

31 (i) participating in a foreign exchange student program

1 recognized by the **corporation** [COMMISSION];  
2 (ii) attending a school as a full-time student;  
3 (iii) full-time employment by the state;  
4 (iv) being a member of or employed full-time by the  
5 state's congressional delegation;  
6 (v) being a person who otherwise qualifies as a resident  
7 and is accompanying a spouse who qualifies as a resident under (i) -  
8 (iv) of this paragraph;  
9 (4) does not have a past due child support obligation established by  
10 court order or by the child support enforcement division under AS 25.27.160 -  
11 25.27.220 at the time of application; and  
12 (5) has not, within the previous five years, had a [SCHOLARSHIP]  
13 loan discharged or written off by the **corporation or the former Alaska Commission**  
14 **on Postsecondary Education** [COMMISSION] for any reason.

15 \* **Sec. 26.** AS 14.43.125(c), as amended by sec. 16, ch. 5, SLA 1996, is amended to read:

16 (c) A person may not be awarded a scholarship loan under **AS 14.43.100 -**  
17 **14.43.160** [AS 14.43.090 - 14.43.160] if that person receives a teacher scholarship loan  
18 under AS 14.43.600 - 14.43.700 for the same period of attendance.

19 \* **Sec. 27.** AS 14.43.150(a) is amended to read:

20 (a) In a court proceeding regarding a defaulted loan under this chapter in  
21 which the court has entered judgment in favor of the **corporation or the former**  
22 **Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education** [COMMISSION], the court may,  
23 on its own motion or motion of the **corporation** [COMMISSION], after notice and an  
24 opportunity for hearing, order the loan recipient to assign to the **corporation**  
25 [COMMISSION] that portion of salary or wages due the loan recipient currently and  
26 in the future in an amount sufficient to pay the amount ordered by the court to be  
27 repaid [TO THE COMMISSION].

28 \* **Sec. 28.** AS 14.43.160 is amended to read:

29 Sec. 14.43.160. DEFINITIONS. In **AS 14.43.100 - 14.43.160**, [AS 14.43.090  
30 - 14.43.160]

31 (1) "career education" means a course or program in vocational-

1 technical training or education approved by the corporation that is a half-time  
2 program at least 12 weeks in length or a full-time program at least six weeks in  
3 length [COMMISSION];

4 (2) "federally insured" means a loan covered by the provisions of the  
5 Guaranteed Student Loan Program of Title IV, Part B, of the Higher Education Act of  
6 1965 (P.L. 89-329), as amended;

7 (3) "full-time student" means an undergraduate or career education  
8 student who is enrolled and is in regular attendance at classes for at least 12 semester  
9 hours of credit or the equivalent during the semester or a graduate student who is  
10 enrolled and is in regular attendance at classes for at least nine semester hours of credit  
11 or the equivalent; any combination of semester hours of credit, or the equivalent,  
12 aggregating to the requisite number of semester hours and undertaken during a  
13 semester at two or more public or private institutions of higher education constitutes  
14 full-time student status;

15 (4) "half-time student" means an undergraduate, graduate, or career  
16 education student who during the semester is enrolled and is in regular attendance at  
17 classes at one or more public or private institutions of higher education for at least a  
18 total of six semester credit hours or an equivalent of six semester credit hours, and  
19 includes a career education student enrolled and in regular attendance in classes for at  
20 least 15 hours a week;

21 (5) "school year" means the period from September 1 of one year  
22 through August 31 of the following year;

23 (6) "summer term" means the period from June 1 - August 31.

24 \* **Sec. 29.** AS 14.43.255(a) is amended to read:

25 (a) There is created a memorial scholarship revolving loan fund **to be**  
26 **administered by the corporation.** The fund shall be used to provide educational  
27 scholarship loans to students selected under AS 14.43.250 - 14.43.325. **Repayments**  
28 [UNLESS THE INSTRUMENT EVIDENCING THE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP  
29 LOAN HAS BEEN SOLD OR ASSIGNED TO THE ALASKA STUDENT LOAN  
30 CORPORATION, REPAYMENTS] of a loan shall be deposited into the memorial  
31 scholarship revolving loan fund and shall be used to make new loans.

1 \* **Sec. 30.** AS 14.43.300(g), as amended by sec. 18, ch. 5, SLA 1996, is amended to read:

2 (g) The **corporation** [COMMISSION] by regulation shall set a loan  
3 origination fee, not to exceed five percent of the total memorial scholarship loan  
4 amount, to be assessed upon a memorial scholarship loan. The loan origination fee  
5 shall be deducted at the time the loan **amount** is disbursed. **The** [SUBJECT TO  
6 APPROPRIATION, THE] loan origination fee shall be deposited into a origination fee  
7 account within the memorial scholarship revolving loan fund, and subsequently  
8 transferred by the **corporation** [COMMISSION] to the appropriate memorial  
9 scholarship accounts within the memorial scholarship revolving loan fund to offset  
10 losses incurred due to loan debt cancellation as a result of death, disability, **default,**  
11 or bankruptcy of the **borrower** [STUDENT].

12 \* **Sec. 31.** AS 14.43.305(i) is amended to read:

13 (i) To the extent they are not in conflict with terms and conditions under  
14 AS 14.43.250 - 14.43.325, the terms and conditions of a memorial scholarship loan  
15 made under AS 14.43.250(b)(5) are the same as the terms and conditions for a  
16 scholarship loan under **AS 14.43.100 - 14.43.160** [AS 14.43.090 - 14.43.160], except  
17 that the interest on the loan is equal to five percent.

18 \* **Sec. 32.** AS 14.43.320(b) is amended to read:

19 (b) To the extent that they are not in conflict with the provisions of  
20 AS 14.43.250 - 14.43.325, the provisions of **AS 14.43.100 - 14.43.160** [AS 14.43.090 -  
21 14.43.160] relating to scholarship loans are applicable to loans made under  
22 AS 14.43.250 - 14.43.325.

23 \* **Sec. 33.** AS 14.43.405(b) is amended to read:

24 (b) To the extent that they are not in conflict with the provisions of  
25 AS 14.43.400 - 14.43.405, the provisions of **AS 14.43.100 - 14.43.160** [AS 14.43.090 -  
26 14.43.160] relating to student financial aid are applicable to the grants made under  
27 AS 14.43.400 - 14.43.500.

28 \* **Sec. 34.** AS 14.43.410 is amended to read:

29 Sec. 14.43.410. DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS. The funds appropriated for the  
30 educational incentive grant program shall be allocated to eligible students in  
31 accordance with the provisions of the federal state student incentive grant program and

1 regulations adopted under AS 14.42.200 and AS 14.43.405 [AS 14.43.105 AND  
2 14.43.405].

3 \* **Sec. 35.** AS 14.43.415 is amended to read:

4 Sec. 14.43.415. ELIGIBILITY; PRIORITY. (a) A student may apply for an  
5 educational incentive grant if the student

6 (1) is a resident of Alaska;

7 (2) is [EITHER]

8 (A) enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student in a degree  
9 program in an accredited postsecondary educational institution; or

10 (B) eligible to be admitted to an accredited postsecondary  
11 educational institution; and

12 (3) establishes financial need in accordance with standards for  
13 determining financial need adopted by the corporation [COMMISSION] under 20  
14 U.S.C. 1070c-2.

15 (b) The corporation [COMMISSION] shall adopt regulations to [, BY  
16 REGULATION,] establish a system of priority in the selection of recipients of grants  
17 under AS 14.43.400 - 14.43.500 under which students from "low income" families or  
18 whose incomes are considered "low income" shall be given preference in the award  
19 of the educational incentive grants.

20 \* **Sec. 36.** AS 14.43.620(a) is amended to read:

21 (a) The [THERE IS CREATED A] teacher scholarship revolving loan account  
22 is created within the student loan fund (AS 14.42.210). The account [FUND] shall  
23 be used to make scholarship loans to students selected under AS 14.43.600 -  
24 14.43.700. Repayments [UNLESS THE INSTRUMENT EVIDENCING THE  
25 TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP LOAN HAS BEEN SOLD OR ASSIGNED TO THE  
26 ALASKA STUDENT LOAN CORPORATION, REPAYMENTS] of principal and  
27 interest on a teacher scholarship loan shall be paid into the teacher scholarship  
28 revolving loan account [FUND] and shall be used to make new teacher scholarship  
29 loans. If estimated funds available are inadequate to fully fund estimated teacher  
30 scholarship loans for any fiscal year, additional funding from the general fund may be  
31 requested and appropriated for that year.

1 \* **Sec. 37.** AS 14.43.630(a) is amended to read:

2 (a) [THE TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP LOAN PROGRAM SHALL BE  
3 ADMINISTERED BY THE COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
4 REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION.] The **corporation**  
5 [COMMISSION] shall

6 (1) **annually** allocate the [LOAN AWARDS] available [FOR] teacher  
7 scholarship loans **awards** [ANNUALLY] to local school boards giving a preference  
8 to rural school districts; and

9 (2) [DEVELOP AND] distribute to the local school boards an  
10 application form for teacher scholarship loans; [THE FORM MUST INCLUDE A  
11 REQUIREMENT THAT] the applicant **must provide** [SUPPLY] a high school  
12 academic transcript and a statement of intent to enter a teaching career at the  
13 elementary or secondary school level in the state.

14 \* **Sec. 38.** AS 14.43.650(a) is amended to read:

15 (a) To be eligible for a teacher scholarship loan, a student must

16 (1) be a graduate of a public or private high school in the state [,] with  
17 sufficient credits to be admitted to an accredited college or university;

18 (2) be enrolled in or show evidence of intent to enroll in a degree  
19 program directed at a teaching career at the elementary or secondary school level;

20 (3) meet the conditions set by the student's local school board with  
21 respect to the district's requirements for teachers in particular subject areas;

22 (4) submit to the local school board an application **on a form** provided  
23 by the **corporation** [COMMISSION] under AS 14.43.630(a)(2); an application may  
24 be submitted six months before graduation from high school; and

25 (5) not have a past due child support obligation established by court  
26 order or by the child support enforcement division under AS 25.27.160 - 25.27.220 at  
27 the time of application.

28 \* **Sec. 39.** AS 14.43.650(c), as amended by sec. 20, ch. 5, SLA 1996, is amended to read:

29 (c) A student may not be awarded a teacher scholarship loan under  
30 AS 14.43.600 - 14.43.700 if the student receives a **student** [SCHOLARSHIP] loan  
31 under **AS 14.43.100 - 14.43.160** [AS 14.43.090 - 14.43.160] for the same period of

1 attendance.

2 \* **Sec. 40.** AS 14.43.720(a) is amended to read:

3 (a) The family education loan account is created within the **student**  
4 [SCHOLARSHIP REVOLVING] loan fund (**AS 14.42.210** [AS 14.43.090]). The  
5 account shall be used to make family education loans to families selected under  
6 AS 14.43.710 - 14.43.790, to pay the costs of collecting family education loans that  
7 are in default if those costs are not recovered from the family, and to pay the costs of  
8 administering the account. **Repayments** [UNLESS THE INSTRUMENT  
9 EVIDENCING THE FAMILY EDUCATION LOAN HAS BEEN SOLD OR  
10 ASSIGNED TO THE ALASKA STUDENT LOAN CORPORATION,  
11 REPAYMENTS] of principal and interest on family education loans shall be paid into  
12 the family education loan account. If estimated funds available from family education  
13 loan repayments are inadequate to fully fund estimated family education loans in a  
14 fiscal year, additional funding from the general fund may be requested and  
15 appropriated for that year.

16 \* **Sec. 41.** AS 14.43.740(d) is amended to read:

17 (d) **A borrower's obligation to commence repayment** [REPAYMENT] of  
18 the principal and interest on a **family education** loan [MADE UNDER AS 14.43.710 -  
19 14.43.790] begins on the first of the month immediately following loan disbursement.  
20 The loan may be cancelled without prejudice at any time before actual disbursement.  
21 The **borrower shall repay** [LOAN SHALL PROVIDE FOR REPAYMENT OF] the  
22 total amount owed in periodic installments **over a period of** [IN] not more than 10  
23 years from the commencement of **the** repayment **obligation**. If the **corporation**  
24 [COMMISSION] and the borrower agree to a different repayment schedule, the  
25 borrower shall repay the loan in accordance with the agreement. **The borrower may**  
26 **make payments earlier than required by this section or the agreement.**

27 \* **Sec. 42.** AS 14.43.990 is repealed and reenacted to read:

28 Sec. 14.43.990. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "corporation" means the Alaska  
29 Student Loan Corporation.

30 \* **Sec. 43.** AS 14.44.035 is amended to read:

31 Sec. 14.44.035. ADMINISTRATION. The Alaska **Student Loan Corporation**

1 [COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION] shall administer the state's  
2 participation in the Western Regional Higher Education Compact.

3 \* **Sec. 44.** AS 14.48 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 Sec. 14.48.035. ALASKA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION.

5 (a) The Alaska Postsecondary Education Commission is created in the department  
6 consisting of the voting members of the Alaska Student Loan Corporation under  
7 AS 14.42.120. The public members are subject to confirmation by the legislature and  
8 serve at the pleasure of the governor for four-year staggered terms.

9 (b) Members of the commission serve without compensation, but the members  
10 who are not state employees are entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized  
11 for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180.

12 (c) The commission shall elect a chair from among its membership at its  
13 annual meeting each year. A majority of the members constitute a quorum for  
14 organizing the commission, conducting its business, and exercising the powers of the  
15 commission.

16 (d) The employees of the department shall serve as staff to the commission.

17 \* **Sec. 45.** AS 14.48.040 is amended to read:

18 Sec. 14.48.040. COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER CHAPTER. The Alaska  
19 Commission on Postsecondary Education shall administer this chapter [AND MAY  
20 HIRE NECESSARY PERSONNEL]. The commission may obtain from departments,  
21 commissions, and other state agencies information and assistance needed to carry out  
22 the provisions of this chapter.

23 \* **Sec. 46.** AS 14.48.050 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

24 (b) The commission has the following advisory functions to the governing  
25 boards of higher education institutions in this state, the governor, the legislature, and  
26 other appropriate state and federal officials:

27 (1) coordinate the development or the start of comprehensive plans for  
28 the orderly systematic growth of public and private postsecondary education, including  
29 community colleges and occupational education, and submit recommendations on the  
30 need for, and location of, new facilities and programs; and

31 (2) advise as to the functions and purposes of the public and private

1 colleges and universities in the state and counsel as to the programs appropriate to  
2 each.

3 (c) The commission may

4 (1) require the institutions of public and private higher education and  
5 other institutions of postsecondary education in the state to submit data on costs,  
6 selection and retention of students, enrollments, plant capacities and use, and other  
7 matters pertinent to effective planning and coordination, and shall furnish information  
8 concerning these matters to the governor, the legislature, and other state and federal  
9 agencies as requested;

10 (2) establish task forces, committees, or subcommittees, not necessarily  
11 consisting of commission members or employees, to advise and assist the commission  
12 in carrying out its functions assigned by this chapter and federal statute; the  
13 commission may contract with, or use, existing institutions of higher education or other  
14 individuals or organizations to make studies, conduct surveys, submit  
15 recommendations, or otherwise contribute to the work of the commission.

16 \* **Sec. 47.** AS 14.48.090 is repealed and reenacted to read:

17 Sec. 14.48.090. FEES. The commission shall adopt regulations that establish  
18 the amount and manner of payment of fees for applications, authorizations, permits,  
19 and renewals under this chapter.

20 \* **Sec. 48.** AS 14.48.120 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

21 (d) In addition to the sanctions imposed under (a) of this section, the  
22 commission may assess a civil fine, not to exceed \$5,000, for costs of investigating  
23 and adjudicating a matter under this chapter.

24 \* **Sec. 49.** AS 39.05.100(a) is amended to read:

25 (a) A person appointed to a board or commission of the state government shall  
26 be and have been before the last general election, (1) a registered voter in the state,  
27 if the appointment is made at large or (2) a registered voter from the judicial district,  
28 if the appointment is made from a specific judicial district. The student member of  
29 the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska appointed under AS 14.40.150(b),  
30 the student member of the Alaska **Student Loan Corporation** [COMMISSION ON  
31 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION] appointed under **AS 14.42.120** [AS 14.42.015(e)],

1 and a member of the Alaska Human Relations Commission appointed under  
2 AS 44.19.600, are exempt from the requirement of this subsection if the member was  
3 not old enough to be a registered voter in the last general election.

4 \* **Sec. 50.** AS 39.25.110(11) is amended to read:

5 (11) the officers and employees of the following boards, commissions,  
6 and authorities:

7 (A) [REPEALED

8 (B)] Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation;

9 **(B)** [(C)] Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority;

10 **(C)** [(D)] Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission;

11 **(D)** [(E)] Alaska **Student Loan Corporation** [COMMISSION  
12 ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION];

13 **(E)** [(F)] Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation;

14 \* **Sec. 51.** AS 39.50.200(b)(32) is amended to read:

15 (32) Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education **(AS 14.48.035)**  
16 [(AS 14.42.015)];

17 \* **Sec. 52.** AS 39.50.200(b) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

18 (56) Alaska Student Loan Corporation (AS 14.42.100).

19 \* **Sec. 53.** AS 43.23.067(a) is amended to read:

20 (a) AS 09.38 does not apply to permanent fund dividends taken under  
21 AS 14.43.120(i). Notwithstanding AS 09.35, **the Alaska Student Loan Corporation**  
22 **may take a permanent fund dividend** [EXECUTION ON A CLAIM] under  
23 AS 14.43.120(i) [IS ACCOMPLISHED] by delivering a certified claim to the  
24 department containing the following information:

25 (1) the name and social security number of the individual whose  
26 dividend is being claimed;

27 (2) the amount the individual owes on the scholarship loan; and

28 (3) a statement that

29 (A) **a** [THE] debt **for at least the amount claimed** has not  
30 been contested, or, if contested, that the issue has been resolved in favor of the  
31 Alaska **Student Loan Corporation** [COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY

1 EDUCATION]; and

2 (B) if the debt has been contested and resolved in favor of the  
3 Alaska **Student Loan Corporation** [COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY  
4 EDUCATION], no appeal is pending, the time limit for filing an appeal has  
5 expired, or the appeal has been resolved in favor of the commission.

6 \* **Sec. 54.** AS 43.23.067(b) is amended to read:

7 (b) The Alaska **Student Loan Corporation** [COMMISSION ON  
8 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION] shall notify the individual of a claim under (a)  
9 of this section. The notice shall be sent to the address provided in the individual's  
10 permanent fund dividend application and must provide the following information:

11 (1) the amount of the claim; and

12 (2) notice that the amount of the permanent fund dividend that does not  
13 exceed the amount of the claim shall be paid to the Alaska **Student Loan**  
14 **Corporation** [COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION] unless the  
15 commission releases the claim or the individual requests a hearing within 30 days after  
16 the date the notice is sent by the commission.

17 \* **Sec. 55.** AS 14.42.010, 14.42.015, 14.42.020, 14.42.025, 14.42.030, 14.42.035, 14.42.040,  
18 14.42.045, 14.42.050, 14.42.055, 14.42.170, 14.42.200(18), 14.42.210(c); AS 14.43.090,  
19 14.43.105, 14.43.255(c), 14.43.320(a), 14.43.405(a), 14.43.620(b), and 14.43.720(b) are  
20 repealed.

21 \* **Sec. 56.** TRANSITIONAL PROVISION: TEMPORARY FEE SCHEDULE FOR  
22 CERTAIN ACTIVITIES RELATED TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL  
23 INSTITUTIONS AND AGENTS. Until a new fee schedule is adopted by regulation to  
24 implement the changes made by sec. 47 of this Act, the commission may charge the fees set  
25 out in the following schedule for an authorization to operate an institution in this state and for  
26 an agent's permit related to activities for postsecondary educational institutions:

27 (1) authorization to operate \$100;

28 (2) renewal of authorization to operate \$100;

29 (3) an agent's permit \$ 50;

30 (4) renewal of an agent's permit \$ 50.

31 \* **Sec. 57.** TRANSITION. (a) The terms of the members of the Alaska Commission on

1 Postsecondary Education terminate on the effective date of sec. 1 of this Act. The governor  
2 may appoint to the Alaska Student Loan Corporation a person who has served on the Alaska  
3 Commission on Postsecondary Education and who meets the qualifications of AS 14.42.120,  
4 as repealed and reenacted by this Act. The terms of public persons initially appointed to the  
5 Alaska Student Loan Corporation must be set as provided in AS 39.05.055.

6 (b) Litigation, hearings, investigations, and other proceedings pending under a law  
7 amended or repealed by this Act, or in connection with functions transferred by this Act,  
8 continue in effect and may be continued and completed notwithstanding a transfer or  
9 amendment or repeal provided for in this Act.

10 (c) Regulations adopted by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education under  
11 authority of AS 14.43 remain in effect until regulations adopted by the Alaska Student Loan  
12 Corporation under that chapter, as amended by this Act, take effect. The Alaska Student Loan  
13 Corporation may implement and enforce commission regulations until the regulations of the  
14 corporation take effect. Notwithstanding sec. 59 of this Act, the Alaska Student Loan  
15 Corporation may immediately proceed to adopt regulations necessary to implement the  
16 changes made by this Act to AS 14.43. The regulations take effect under AS 44.62  
17 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the effective date of sec. 1 of this Act.

18 (d) Regulations adopted under the authority of AS 14.48 by the Alaska Commission  
19 on Postsecondary Education, as constituted before July 1, 1996, remain in effect.  
20 Notwithstanding sec. 59 of this Act, the commission may immediately proceed to adopt  
21 regulations necessary to implement the changes made by this Act to AS 14.48. The  
22 regulations take effect under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the  
23 effective date of sec. 1 of this Act.

24 (e) Contracts, rights, liabilities, notes, or other obligations created by or under a  
25 section of AS 14.43 amended or repealed by this Act, and in effect on June 30, 1996, remain  
26 in effect notwithstanding this Act, with all contracts, rights, liabilities, notes, or other  
27 obligations created by or under a section of AS 14.43 amended or repealed by this Act  
28 becoming contracts, rights, liabilities, notes, or other obligations of the Alaska Student Loan  
29 Corporation.

30 (f) Records, equipment, appropriations, and other property of agencies of the state  
31 whose functions are transferred under this Act shall be transferred to implement the provisions

1 of this Act.

2 (g) An individual who is an employee of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary  
3 Education on June 30, 1996, becomes an employee of the Alaska Student Loan Corporation  
4 on July 1, 1996.

5 (h) Employees of the Alaska Student Loan Corporation who were, on June 30, 1996,  
6 employees of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, are no longer eligible to  
7 accrue credited service under AS 14.25.

8 \* **Sec. 58.** Section 57(c) and (d) take effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

9 \* **Sec. 59.** Except as provided in sec. 58 of this Act, this Act takes effect July 1, 1996.