

SENATE CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 239(RLS)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/15/02

Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES FOSTER, James, Dyson, Davies, McGuire, Wilson

SENATORS Cowdery, Olson

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the base student allocation used in the formula for state funding of**
2 **public education; establishing a pilot program for a regional learning center; and**
3 **providing for an effective date."**

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

5 * **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
6 to read:

7 FINDINGS FOR SECTION 3. The legislature finds that

8 (1) a recently completed study conducted by the Twenty-Second Alaska State
9 Legislature through the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee indicates broad public
10 support for regional learning centers;

11 (2) the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee's Regional Learning Center
12 Report suggests that long-range strategies for improvement of rural education will be found in
13 a variety of models developed on a regional basis;

1 (3) a pilot project utilizing excess facilities at former vocational education
2 centers could house rural students from outlying communities, create access to vocational
3 education features not presently available, and allow participation in employment
4 opportunities in the fields of law enforcement, health care, aviation, and education;

5 (4) federal funding may be available to support the pilot project.

6 * **Sec. 2.** AS 14.17.470 is amended to read:

7 **Sec. 14.17.470. Base student allocation.** The base student allocation is
8 \$4,041 [\$4,010].

9 * **Sec. 3.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
10 read:

11 **PILOT PROGRAM FOR REGIONAL LEARNING CENTER.** (a) The Department
12 of Education and Early Development shall, beginning July 1, 2002, and ending June 30, 2006,
13 establish a pilot program regional learning center for the purpose of supplementing secondary
14 education programs. The pilot program regional learning center shall be established in a rural
15 educational attendance area with an average daily membership in fiscal year 2000 of at least
16 1,750, but not more than 2,000, and must

17 (1) include classes to expand career awareness and vocational education
18 opportunities for secondary school students;

19 (2) include classes that increase independent living and working skills; and

20 (3) use existing facilities within the school district if facilities are available.

21 (b) In this section, "average daily membership" has the meaning given in
22 AS 14.17.990.

23 * **Sec. 4.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2002.