

SENATE BILL NO. 89

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR DAVIS

Introduced: 2/13/01

Referred: Health, Education and Social Services, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to charter schools; and providing for an effective date."**

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

3 *** Section 1.** AS 14.03.250(a) is amended to read:

4 (a) A charter school may be established as provided under AS 14.03.250 -
5 14.03.290 upon the approval of the local school board and the state Board of
6 Education and Early Development of an application for a charter school. The state
7 Board of Education and Early Development may not approve more than 60 [30]
8 charter schools to operate in the state at any one time [AND SHALL APPROVE
9 CHARTER SCHOOLS IN A GEOGRAPHICALLY BALANCED MANNER AS
10 FOLLOWS: NOT MORE THAN 10 SCHOOLS IN ANCHORAGE; NOT MORE
11 THAN FIVE SCHOOLS IN FAIRBANKS; NOT MORE THAN THREE SCHOOLS
12 IN THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH; NOT MORE THAN THREE
13 SCHOOLS IN THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH; NOT MORE THAN TWO
14 SCHOOLS IN THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU; NOT MORE THAN
15 SEVEN SCHOOLS LOCATED IN OTHER AREAS OF THE STATE, AND THESE

1 SEVEN SCHOOLS SHALL BE ALLOCATED AS NEARLY AS POSSIBLE IN A
 2 GEOGRAPHICALLY BALANCED MANNER THROUGHOUT THE REST OF
 3 THE STATE].

4 * **Sec. 2.** AS 14.03.255(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) A charter school operates as a school in the local school district except that
 6 the charter school (1) is exempt from the local school district's textbook, program,
 7 curriculum, and scheduling requirements; (2) is exempt from AS 14.14.130(c); the
 8 principal of the charter school shall be selected by the academic policy committee and
 9 shall select, appoint, or otherwise supervise employees of the charter school; and (3)
 10 operates under the charter school's annual program budget as set out in the contract
 11 between the local school board and the charter school under (c) of this section. A
 12 local school board may exempt a charter school from other local school district
 13 requirements if the exemption is set out in the contract. **A charter school is subject**
 14 **to secondary school competency testing as provided in AS 14.03.075.**

15 * **Sec. 3.** AS 14.03.255(c) is amended to read:

16 (c) A charter school shall operate under a contract between the charter school
 17 and the local school board. A contract must contain the following provisions:

- 18 (1) **a** description of the educational program;
- 19 (2) specific levels of achievement for the education program;
- 20 (3) admission policies and procedures;
- 21 (4) administrative policies;
- 22 (5) **a** statement of the charter school's funding allocation from the local
 23 school board and costs assignable to the charter school program budget;
- 24 (6) **the** method by which the charter school will account for receipts
 25 and expenditures;
- 26 (7) **the** location and description of the facility;
- 27 (8) **the** name of the teacher, or teachers, who, by agreement between
 28 the charter school and the teacher, will teach in the charter school;
- 29 (9) **the** teacher-to-student ratio;
- 30 (10) **the** number of students served;
- 31 (11) the term of the contract, not to exceed a term of **10** [FIVE] years;

1 (12) a termination clause providing that the contract may be terminated
 2 by the local school board for the failure of the charter school to meet educational
 3 achievement goals or fiscal management standards, or for other good cause;

4 (13) a statement that the charter school will comply with all state and
 5 federal requirements for receipt and use of public money;

6 (14) other requirements or exemptions agreed upon by the charter
 7 school and the local school board.

8 * **Sec. 4.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

9 **Sec. 14.03.263. Charter school grant program.** (a) A charter school may
 10 receive a one-time grant from the department equal to the amount of \$500 for each
 11 pupil enrolled in the charter school on October 1 of the year in which the school
 12 applies for the grant. The charter school shall use a grant received under this
 13 subsection to provide educational services. In this subsection, "educational services"
 14 includes curriculum development, program development, and special education
 15 services.

16 (b) A charter school that has a Native language education curriculum as
 17 described under AS 14.30.420 or a charter school that has an Alaska Native history
 18 education curriculum that includes cultural and political components is eligible to
 19 receive an annual grant equal to the amount of \$100 for each pupil enrolled in the
 20 curriculum on October 1.

21 (c) The department shall establish by regulation procedures for application for
 22 and expenditure of grant funds under (a) or (b) of this section.

23 * **Sec. 5.** AS 14.03.275 is amended to read:

24 **Sec. 14.03.275. Contracts; duration.** A contract for a charter school may be
 25 for a term of no more than 10 [FIVE] years [AND MAY NOT EXTEND BEYOND
 26 JULY 1, 2005].

27 * **Sec. 6.** AS 14.17.905 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

28 (b) Notwithstanding (a)(3) of this section, an alternative school that is a
 29 charter school shall be counted as a separate school if

30 (1) the school is operated in a facility separate from other students;

31 (2) the charter school has an ADM of at least 100 students; and

- 1 (3) the charter school is not operated as a correspondence school.
- 2 * **Sec. 7.** Section 9, ch. 77, SLA 1995, is repealed.
- 3 * **Sec. 8.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2001.