

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 119(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/11/08

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATOR OLSON

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to grant programs to support libraries."**

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

3 *** Section 1.** AS 14.56 is amended by adding new sections to article 5 to read:

4 **Sec. 14.56.355. Library construction and major expansion matching grant**
5 **program.** (a) There is established in the Department of Commerce, Community, and
6 Economic Development a matching grant program for library construction and major
7 expansion.

8 (b) A person in charge of construction or major expansion of an eligible
9 library may apply to the department for a matching grant under regulations adopted by
10 the department.

11 (c) Subject to appropriation, the department shall award not more than 50
12 percent of the total proposed grant project costs to an eligible applicant.

13 (d) In this section,

14 (1) "department" means the Department of Commerce, Community,
15 and Economic Development;

1 (2) "major expansion" means an expansion of an existing library to
 2 increase the square footage of the structure by not less than 30 percent.

3 **Sec. 14.56.356. Eligibility.** (a) A library eligible for a grant under
 4 AS 14.56.355 must

5 (1) be publicly owned and operated; and

6 (2) be located in a community with a population of less than 10,000
 7 persons.

8 (b) An applicant for a grant under AS 14.56.355 must provide matching funds
 9 from

10 (1) the local government entity in an amount not less than 20 percent
 11 of the total proposed grant project costs; and

12 (2) private donors in an amount not less than the amount remaining of
 13 the total proposed grant project costs after the state and local contributions are made
 14 toward the project.

15 * **Sec. 2.** AS 14.56 is amended by adding new sections to read:

16 **Article 5A. Public School Library Collection Development Grants.**

17 **Sec. 14.56.360. Public school library collection development grants.** (a)

18 There is established in the department a public school library collection development
 19 grant program.

20 (b) The person or division in charge of the state library shall award and
 21 administer grants of not more than \$3,000 for a fiscal year for use by a public school
 22 library eligible under AS 14.56.365 to expand and improve the library collection to
 23 include relevant and current reading materials.

24 (c) If money appropriated for the program is insufficient to fund all eligible
 25 grant requests submitted under AS 14.56.365, the available funding shall be awarded
 26 to the highest ranked applicants, according to criteria established by the department in
 27 regulation.

28 **Sec. 14.56.365. Eligibility.** (a) A library eligible for a grant under
 29 AS 14.56.360 must be a public school library established and supported by a school
 30 district that

31 (1) provides physical space or, if a correspondence school operated by

1 a school district, resources for use as a library;

2 (2) provides regularly scheduled library hours for all students enrolled
3 in the school;

4 (3) provides designated library personnel to staff the library;

5 (4) provides acceptable evidence of the promotion of library and
6 information literacy standards;

7 (5) maintains an annual library budget that includes library staffing and
8 materials; and

9 (6) contributes, from the school district's budget, an amount that is not
10 less than the grant award that is paid for library collection materials or contributes in-
11 kind value of services.

12 (b) The department may establish by regulation an application and review
13 procedure, including requirements for submission of adequate documentation to prove
14 eligibility under this section. Documentation must include submission of library class
15 schedules, job descriptions for library staff, and a copy of an annual budget for the
16 library.

17 **Sec. 14.56.370. Eligible expenditures.** (a) A library collection development
18 grant may be used only to purchase library collection materials by a public school or
19 by a school district if the district operates a correspondence program with an eligible
20 school library. In this subsection, "library collection materials" means books,
21 magazines, reference and audio-visual materials, and electronic subscriptions that
22 support school curriculum and student reading activities.

23 (b) A library collection development grant may not be used to supplant school
24 district expenditures for the library or to purchase classroom materials, textbooks,
25 testing software, library automation software, computer hardware, operating software,
26 or technology support.

27 **Sec. 14.56.375. Report.** A recipient of a grant awarded under AS 14.56.360
28 shall prepare a brief annual report to the department describing the effects of the grant
29 and whether all conditions of the grant were met or exceeded.

30 * **Sec. 3.** AS 14.56.300, 14.56.310, 14.56.320, 14.56.330, and 14.56.340 are repealed.