

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 119(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/10/08

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 14.56.300 is amended to read:

4 **Sec. 14.56.300. Library assistance grant program [FUND].** There is
5 established in the department a library assistance grant **program** [FUND]. From
6 legislative appropriations [TO THE FUND], the department shall make grants to
7 eligible libraries for public library operations, for interlibrary cooperation, or for
8 regional library services.

9 * **Sec. 2.** AS 14.56 is amended by adding new sections to article 5 to read:

10 **Sec. 14.56.355. Library construction and major expansion matching grant**
11 **program.** (a) There is established in the Department of Commerce, Community, and
12 Economic Development a matching grant program for library construction and major
13 expansion.

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

1 the department.

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

4 (d) The department shall establish regulations to implement this section and
5 the eligibility standards under AS 14.56.356. The regulations must include
6 consideration for and establishment of an eligibility priority for an application that is
7 submitted by a community that does not have a public library described in
8 AS 14.56.356(a)(2).

9 (e) In this section,

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

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

14 **Sec. 14.56.356. Eligibility.** (a) To be a library eligible for a grant under
15 AS 14.56.355, a library must be

16 (1) publicly owned and operated by a community; and

17 (2) a public library as described in AS 14.56.400 that is not a public
18 school library.

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

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

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

26 * **Sec. 3.** AS 14.56 is amended by adding new sections to read:

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

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

29 There is established in the department a public school library collection development
30 grant program.

31 (b) The person or division in charge of the state library shall award and

1 administer grants of not more than \$3,000 for a fiscal year for use by a public school
 2 library eligible under AS 14.56.365 to expand and improve the library collection to
 3 include relevant and current reading materials.

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

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

11 (1) provides physical space or, if a correspondence school operated by
 12 a school district, resources for use as a library;

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

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

16 (4) provides acceptable evidence of the promotion of library and
 17 information literacy standards;

18 (5) maintains an annual library budget that includes library staffing and
 19 materials; and

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

23 (b) The department shall establish by regulation an application and review
 24 procedure, including requirements for submission of adequate documentation to prove
 25 eligibility under this section. Documentation must include submission of library class
 26 schedules, job descriptions for library staff, and a copy of an annual budget for the
 27 library.

28 **Sec. 14.56.370. Eligible expenditures.** (a) A library collection development
 29 grant may be used only to purchase library collection materials by a public school or
 30 by a school district if the district operates a correspondence program with an eligible
 31 school library. In this subsection, "library collection materials" means books,

1 magazines, reference and audio-visual materials, and electronic subscriptions that
2 support school curriculum and student reading activities.

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

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