

SENATE BILL NO. 122

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATORS DAVIS, Kookesh

Introduced: 2/23/09

Referred: Education, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to providing a prekindergarten program within a school district; and
2 providing for an effective date."

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

4 * **Section 1.** AS 14.03.060(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) Except as provided in (e) of this section, an elementary school consists of
6 grades kindergarten through grade eight or any appropriate combination of grades
7 within this range, **and a prekindergarten program provided by a school district**
8 **for students four and five years of age.**

9 * **Sec. 2.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 **Sec. 14.03.065. Prekindergarten program.** A prekindergarten program
11 provided by a school district must

12 (1) be optional;

13 (2) be for a child four or five years of age who resides in the district;

14 and

1 (3) be funded under AS 14.17.905(a) and (c).

2 * **Sec. 3.** AS 14.03.080 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

3 (g) A child who is four or five years of age on or before September 1
4 following the beginning of the school year and who is under school age may enter a
5 public school prekindergarten program.

6 * **Sec. 4.** AS 14.07.020(c) is amended to read:

7 (c) In this section, "pre-elementary school" means a school for children
8 [AGES] three through five years **of age** if the school's primary function is educational,
9 **and a prekindergarten program for children four or five years of age that is**
10 **provided by a school district.**

11 * **Sec. 5.** AS 14.07.165 is amended to read:

12 **Sec. 14.07.165. Duties.** The board shall adopt

13 (1) statewide goals and require each governing body to adopt written
14 goals that are consistent with local needs;

15 (2) regulations regarding the application for and award of grants under
16 AS 14.03.125;

17 (3) regulations implementing provisions of AS 14.11.014(b);

18 (4) regulations requiring approval by the board before a charter school,
19 state boarding school, or a public school may provide domiciliary services;

20 (5) regulations implementing the secondary school student competency
21 examination provisions of AS 14.03.075, including the criteria and procedure under
22 which a governing body uses a waiver to grant a diploma to a student; criteria
23 regarding granting a waiver must include provisions that a waiver may only be granted
24 for students who enter the system late or have rare or unusual circumstances meriting
25 a waiver;

26 **(6) regulations for the implementation of a prekindergarten**
27 **program by a school district using the model curriculum developed by the**
28 **department under AS 14.07.030(13).**

29 * **Sec. 6.** AS 14.17.905(a) is amended to read:

30 (a) For purposes of this chapter, the determination of the number of schools in
31 a district is subject to the following:

1 (1) a community with an ADM of at least 10, but not more than 100,
2 shall be counted as one school;

3 (2) a community with an ADM of at least 101, but not more than 425,
4 shall be counted as

5 (A) one elementary school, which includes those students in
6 grades kindergarten through six, **and, except as provided in (c) of this**
7 **section, a prekindergarten program provided by a school district for**
8 **students four and five years of age;** and

9 (B) one secondary school, which includes students in grades
10 seven through 12;

11 (3) in a community with an ADM of greater than 425, each facility that
12 is administered as a separate school shall be counted as one school, except that each
13 alternative school with an ADM of less than 200 shall be counted as a part of the
14 school in the district with the highest ADM.

15 * **Sec. 7.** AS 14.17.905 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

16 (c) A school district may not include in the average daily membership of a
17 school students who are four or five years of age if the students are enrolled in a
18 program that receives funding other than funding under this section.

19 * **Sec. 8.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2012.