

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 220(FIN)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 3/21/14**

**Referred: Rules**

**Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES HIGGINS, MILLETT, GARA, GATTIS, TAMMIE WILSON, AND THOMPSON, Peggy Wilson, Kawasaki, Seaton, Tarr, Holmes, Guttenberg, Muñoz, Tuck, Neuman**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act repealing the secondary student competency examination and related**  
2 **requirements; relating to an annual performance report to the legislature by the**  
3 **Department of Education and Early Development; and providing for an effective date."**

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

5 **\* Section 1.** AS 14.03.078 is amended to read:

6 **Sec. 14.03.078. Report.** The department shall provide to the legislature by  
7 February 15 of each year **by electronic means** an annual report regarding the progress  
8 of each school and school district toward high academic performance by all students.  
9 The report required under this section must include

10 (1) information described under AS 14.03.120(d);

11 (2) [THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS IN  
12 EACH SCHOOL WHO PASS THE EXAMINATION REQUIRED UNDER AS  
13 14.03.075, AND THE NUMBER WHO PASS EACH SECTION OF THE  
14 EXAMINATION;

1 (3)] progress of the department

2 (A) toward implementing the school accountability provisions  
3 of AS 14.03.123; and

4 (B) in assisting high schools to become accredited;

5 (3) [(4)] a description of the resources provided to each school and  
6 school district for coordinated school improvement activities and staff training in each  
7 school and school district;

8 (4) [(5)] each school district's and each school's progress in aligning  
9 curriculum with state education performance standards;

10 (5) [(6)] a description of the efforts by the department to assist a public  
11 school that receives a designation of deficient or in crisis;

12 (6) [(7)] a description of intervention efforts by each school district  
13 and school for students who are not meeting state performance standards;

14 (7) [(8)] the number and percentage of turnover in certificated  
15 personnel and superintendents;

16 (8) [(9)] the number of teachers by district and by school who are  
17 teaching outside the teacher's area of endorsement [BUT IN AREAS TESTED BY  
18 THE HIGH SCHOOL COMPETENCY EXAMINATION].

19 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 14.03.120(d) is amended to read:

20 (d) Annually, before the date set by the district under (e) of this section, each  
21 public school shall deliver to the department for posting on the department's Internet  
22 website and provide, in a public meeting of parents, students, and community  
23 members, a report on the school's performance and the performance of the school's  
24 students. The report shall be prepared on a form prescribed by the department and  
25 must include

26 (1) information on accreditation;

27 (2) results of norm-referenced achievement tests;

28 (3) results of state standards-based assessments in reading, writing, and  
29 mathematics;

30 (4) a description, including quantitative and qualitative measures, of  
31 student, parent, community, and business involvement in student learning;

1 (5) a description of the school's attendance, retention, dropout, and  
 2 graduation rates, [INCLUDING THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF  
 3 STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED A DIPLOMA UNDER A WAIVER FROM THE  
 4 COMPETENCY EXAMINATION REQUIRED UNDER AS 14.03.075(a),] as  
 5 specified by the state board;

6 (6) the annual percent of enrollment change, regardless of reason, and  
 7 the annual percent of enrollment change due to student transfers into and out of the  
 8 school district;

9 (7) if Native language education is provided, a summary and  
 10 evaluation of the curriculum described in AS 14.30.420;

11 (8) [THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS IN  
 12 EACH SCHOOL WHO TAKE AND WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AN  
 13 ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM IN READING, ENGLISH, OR  
 14 MATHEMATICS; AND THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF PUPILS IN  
 15 EACH SCHOOL WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE ALTERNATIVE  
 16 ASSESSMENT PROGRAM BUT WHO DO NOT REACH THE STATE  
 17 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AT THE COMPETENCY EXAM LEVEL IN  
 18 READING, ENGLISH, OR MATHEMATICS; A SCHOOL MAY NOT REPORT  
 19 RESULTS UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH UNLESS THE SCHOOL COMPLIES  
 20 WITH THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY  
 21 REQUIREMENTS OF 34 C.F.R. 99;

22 (9)] the performance designation assigned the school under AS  
 23 14.03.123 and the methodology used to assign the performance designation, including  
 24 the measures used and their relative weights; and

25 (9) [(10)] other information concerning school performance and the  
 26 performance of the school's students as required by the state board in regulation.

27 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 14.03.123(f) is amended to read:

28 (f) In the accountability system for schools and districts required by this  
 29 section, the department shall

30 (1) implement 20 U.S.C. 6301 - 7941 (Elementary and Secondary  
 31 Education Act of 1965), as amended;

1 (2) implement state criteria and priorities for accountability including  
2 the use of

3 (A) measures of student performance on standards-based  
4 assessments in reading, writing, and mathematics [, AND INCLUDING  
5 COMPETENCY TESTS REQUIRED UNDER AS 14.03.075];

6 (B) measures of student improvement; and

7 (C) other measures identified that are indicators of student  
8 success and achievement; and

9 (3) to the extent practicable, minimize the administrative burden on  
10 districts.

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

12 (a) A charter school operates as a school in the local school district except that  
13 the charter school (1) is exempt from the local school district's textbook, program,  
14 curriculum, and scheduling requirements; (2) is exempt from AS 14.14.130(c); the  
15 principal of the charter school shall be selected by the academic policy committee and  
16 shall select, appoint, or otherwise supervise employees of the charter school; and (3)  
17 operates under the charter school's annual program budget as set out in the contract  
18 between the local school board and the charter school under (c) of this section. A local  
19 school board may exempt a charter school from other local school district  
20 requirements if the exemption is set out in the contract. A charter school is subject to  
21 [SECONDARY SCHOOL COMPETENCY TESTING AS PROVIDED IN AS  
22 14.03.075 AND OTHER] competency tests required by the department.

23 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 14.03.075 and AS 14.07.165(5) are repealed.

24 \* **Sec. 6.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
25 read:

26 **RETROSPECTIVE ISSUANCE OF A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.** (a) At the  
27 request of a student, a school district shall issue a high school diploma to a student who did  
28 not receive a high school diploma because the student failed to pass all or a portion of the  
29 secondary school competency examination but who received a certificate of achievement  
30 under former AS 14.03.075. A school district shall mail a notice consistent with this section to  
31 each student who qualifies for a diploma under this section to the student's last known

1 address.

2 (b) The Department of Education and Early Development shall post a notice  
3 consistent with this section on the department's Internet website with information about how  
4 to request a high school diploma.

5 (c) In this section, "school district" has the meaning given in AS 14.30.350.

6 \* **Sec. 7.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).