

CS FOR SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 100(EDC)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/17/14

Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): SENATORS DUNLEAVY, Giessel

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act establishing a grant program to be administered by the Association of Alaska
2 School Boards for the purchase of student equipment and technology services;
3 establishing a grant program for innovative approaches to learning; relating to
4 correspondence study programs and student allotments; and providing for an effective
5 date."

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

7 * **Section 1.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding new sections to read:

8 **Sec. 14.03.127. Personalized learning opportunity grant program.** (a) The
9 personalized learning opportunity grant program is established in the department for
10 the purpose of providing technological equipment, technical support, and training in
11 the use of one electronic device for each student. The program shall be administered
12 consistent with state law by the Association of Alaska School Boards recognized
13 under AS 14.14.150 through a direct grant from the department using funds

1 appropriated from the state general fund. As a condition of the grant, the Association
 2 of Alaska School Boards shall submit an annual report of its activities under the grant.
 3 The department may deny subsequent grants on the basis of the report if the
 4 commissioner finds that the Association of Alaska School Boards has not served the
 5 purpose of the grant program.

6 (b) A school district may apply for a subgrant under this section by

7 (1) agreeing to grant conditions established by the Association of
 8 Alaska School Boards consistent with the purpose of the program;

9 (2) submitting an application on an approved form to the Association
 10 of Alaska School Boards; the application must include

11 (A) A description of the grant project;

12 (B) proof of district readiness to fulfill the grant project;

13 (C) project goals;

14 (3) providing written assurances that the district will implement the
 15 grant project in a manner that is consistent with the district's grant application and
 16 conditions;

17 (4) agreeing to provide a final grant report that compares student
 18 performance data before and after the grant period; and

19 (5) providing a matching amount equivalent to 20 percent of the total
 20 amount of the grant project costs; the match may be met using 10 percent or less from
 21 the value of in-kind services.

22 **Sec. 14.03.128. Innovative approach to learning grant.** (a) The department
 23 shall establish a grant program to make grants for the purpose of encouraging
 24 innovative approaches to learning by school districts.

25 (b) A school district may apply to the department for a grant under this section
 26 by submitting an application on a form approved by the department in an amount and
 27 for a period established by the department. The department shall give priority to grant
 28 awards for

29 (1) a district-operated boarding school operated on a regional basis as
 30 described in AS 14.16.200;

31 (2) a public correspondence program;

- 1 (3) a public charter school;
- 2 (4) a vocational education program in a public school;
- 3 (5) a pre-elementary demonstration project;
- 4 (6) other public programs.

5 (c) A grant awarded under this section may be used for planning or
6 implementation of an innovative approach to learning. The department may not award
7 a grant for implementation of a project unless the applicant can demonstrate, to the
8 satisfaction of the department, that the project has been planned and shown to be
9 feasible.

10 (d) A district that has been awarded a grant for implementation of a project
11 under this section shall provide to the department a description of a method for
12 replicating successful results of the grant project.

13 (e) The department shall submit an annual report to the legislature that
14 describes the

- 15 (1) number and time period of grants awarded;
- 16 (2) purpose of each grant project;
- 17 (3) results obtained from each grant project; and
- 18 (4) methods available to replicate successful results under the project

19 that demonstrate an innovative approach to learning.

20 * **Sec. 2.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding new sections to read:

21 **Article 3. Correspondence Study Programs.**

22 **Sec. 14.03.300. Correspondence study programs; individual learning**
23 **plans.** (a) A district or the department that provides a correspondence study program
24 shall annually provide an individual learning plan for each student enrolled in the
25 program developed in collaboration with the student, the parent or guardian of the
26 student, a certificated teacher assigned to the student, and other individuals involved in
27 the student's learning plan. An individual learning plan must

- 28 (1) be developed with the assistance and approval of the certificated
29 teacher assigned to the student by the district;
- 30 (2) provide for a course of study for the appropriate grade level
31 consistent with state and district standards;

1 (3) provide for an ongoing assessment plan that includes statewide
2 assessments required for public schools under AS 14.03.123(f);

3 (4) include a provision for modification of the individual learning plan
4 if the student is below proficient on a standardized assessment in a core subject;

5 (5) provide for a signed agreement between the certificated teacher
6 assigned to the student and at least one parent or the guardian of each student that
7 verifies compliance with an individual learning plan;

8 (6) provide for monitoring of each student's work and progress by the
9 certificated teacher assigned to the student.

10 (b) Notwithstanding another provision of law, the department may not impose
11 additional requirements, other than the requirements specified under (a) of this section
12 and under AS 14.03.320, on a student who is proficient or advanced on statewide
13 assessments required under AS 14.03.123(f).

14 **Sec. 14.03.320. Student allotments.** (a) Except as provided in (e) of this
15 section, the department or a district that provides a correspondence study program may
16 provide an annual student allotment to a parent or guardian of a student enrolled in the
17 correspondence study program for the purpose of meeting instructional expenses for
18 the student enrolled in the program as provided in this section.

19 (b) A parent or guardian may purchase nonsectarian services and materials
20 from a public, private, or religious organization with a student allotment provided
21 under (a) of this section if

22 (1) the services and materials are required for the course of study in the
23 individual learning plan developed for the student under AS 14.03.300;

24 (2) textbooks, services, and other curriculum materials and the course
25 of study

26 (A) are approved by the school district;

27 (B) are appropriate for the student;

28 (C) are aligned to state standards; and

29 (D) comply with AS 14.03.090 and AS 14.18.060; and

30 (3) otherwise support a public purpose.

31 (c) Except as provided in (d) of this section, an annual student allotment

1 provided under this section is reserved and excluded from the unreserved portion of a
2 district's year-end fund balance in the school operating fund under AS 14.17.505.

3 (d) The department or a district that provides for an annual student allotment
4 under (a) of this section shall

5 (1) account for the balance of an unexpended annual student allotment
6 during the period in which a student continues to be enrolled in the correspondence
7 program for which the annual allotment was provided;

8 (2) return the unexpended balance of a student allotment to the budget
9 of the department or district for a student who is no longer enrolled in the
10 correspondence program for which the allotment was provided;

11 (3) maintain a record of expenditures and allotments; and

12 (4) implement a routine monitoring of audits and expenditures.

13 (e) A student allotment provided under (a) of this section may not be used to
14 pay for services provided to a student by a family member. In this subsection, "family
15 member" means the student's spouse, guardian, parent, stepparent, sibling, stepsibling,
16 grandparent, stepgrandparent, child, uncle, or aunt.

17 * **Sec. 3.** AS 14.17.430 is amended to read:

18 **Sec. 14.17.430. State funding for correspondence study.** Except as provided
19 in AS 14.17.400(b), funding for the state centralized correspondence study program or
20 a district correspondence program, including a district that offers a statewide
21 correspondence study program, includes an allocation from the public education fund
22 in an amount calculated by multiplying the ADM of the correspondence program by
23 one [80 PERCENT].

24 * **Sec. 4.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2014.