

HOUSE BILL NO. 356

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE GILLHAM

Introduced: 2/22/22

Referred: Community and Regional Affairs, Education

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act establishing a character development program for public schools."**

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

3 *** Section 1.** AS 14.30 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Article 15. Character Development Program.**

5 **Sec. 14.30.770. Character development program.** (a) Each school district
6 shall establish and provide to students in kindergarten through grade 12 a program of
7 character development approved by the department. The program must

8 (1) for students in kindergarten through grade 12, emphasize the
9 following qualities:

- 10 (A) patriotism;
11 (B) responsibility;
12 (C) citizenship;
13 (D) kindness;
14 (E) respect for authority, life, liberty, and personal property;
15 (F) honesty;

(G) charity;

(H) self-control;

(I) racial, ethnic, and religious tolerance; and

(J) cooperation;

(2) for students in grades nine through 12, include instruction on workplace ethics, employment law, and life and employment-related skills, including how to

(A) develop leadership, interpersonal, organization, and research skills;

(B) create a resume, including a digital resume;

(C) explore career pathways;

(D) use state career planning resources;

(E) develop and practice employment interview skills;

(F) engage in conflict resolution;

(G) manage stress and expectations; and

(H) develop skills to enable students to become more resilient and self-motivated; and

(3) for students in grades 11 and 12, include instruction on voting using the primary and general election ballots.

(b) Before curriculum, literature, or materials related to a character development program established under (a) of this section may be used in a class or program or distributed in a school, the curriculum, literature, or materials must be approved by the department.

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