

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE STANDING COMMITTEE

April 18, 2022

1:32 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Mia Costello, Chair

Senator Peter Micciche

Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator Joshua Revak, Vice Chair

Senator Gary Stevens

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

SENATE BILL NO. 160

"An Act providing a premium tax credit for flood insurance; relating to flood insurance; relating to property insurance; establishing the Alaska Flood Authority and the Alaska flood insurance fund; and providing for an effective date."

- MOVED CSSB 160 (L&C) OUT OF COMMITTEE

SENATE BILL NO. 225

"An Act relating to a paraprofessional training program; creating a teacher resident certificate; creating a teacher residency program; relating to requirements to issue a teacher certificate; relating to subject-matter expert limited teacher certificates; relating to limited teacher certificates; creating a teacher registered apprenticeship program; and creating a teacher registered apprenticeship program fund."

- MOVED CSSB 225 (L&C) OUT OF COMMITTEE

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION

BILL: SB 160

SHORT TITLE: FLOOD INSURANCE

SPONSOR(s): SENATOR(s) STEDMAN

01/18/22	(S)	READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
01/18/22	(S)	L&C, FIN
03/23/22	(S)	L&C AT 1:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)

03/23/22 (S) Heard & Held
03/23/22 (S) MINUTE(L&C)
04/13/22 (S) L&C AT 1:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)
04/13/22 (S) <Bill Hearing Canceled>

BILL: SB 225

SHORT TITLE: TEACHER REGISTERED APPRENTICE PROGRAMS

SPONSOR(s): EDUCATION

03/04/22 (S) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
03/04/22 (S) EDC, L&C, FIN
03/07/22 (S) EDC AT 9:00 AM BUTROVICH 205
03/07/22 (S) Heard & Held
03/07/22 (S) MINUTE(EDC)
03/09/22 (S) EDC AT 9:00 AM BUTROVICH 205
03/09/22 (S) Heard & Held
03/09/22 (S) MINUTE(EDC)
03/14/22 (S) EDC AT 9:00 AM BUTROVICH 205
03/14/22 (S) Heard & Held
03/14/22 (S) MINUTE(EDC)
03/16/22 (S) EDC AT 9:00 AM BUTROVICH 205
03/16/22 (S) Heard & Held
03/16/22 (S) MINUTE(EDC)
03/18/22 (S) EDC AT 9:00 AM BUTROVICH 205
03/18/22 (S) Heard & Held
03/18/22 (S) MINUTE(EDC)
03/23/22 (S) EDC AT 9:00 AM BUTROVICH 205
03/23/22 (S) Heard & Held
03/23/22 (S) MINUTE(EDC)
03/30/22 (S) EDC AT 9:00 AM BUTROVICH 205
03/30/22 (S) Moved CSSB 225(EDC) Out of Committee
03/30/22 (S) MINUTE(EDC)
03/31/22 (S) EDC RPT CS 3DP NEW TITLE
03/31/22 (S) DP: HOLLAND, HUGHES, STEVENS
04/11/22 (S) L&C AT 1:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)
04/11/22 (S) Heard & Held
04/11/22 (S) MINUTE(L&C)

WITNESS REGISTER

KATIE MCCALL, Staff
Senator Mia Costello
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Presented the changes between version A and I of SB 160.

ED KING, Staff
Senator Roger Holland
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Explained the changes between version G and version O of SB 225.

ACTION NARRATIVE

[1:32:59 PM](#)

CHAIR MIA COSTELLO called the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. Present at the call to order were Senators Gray-Jackson, and Chair Costello.

SB 160-FLOOD INSURANCE

[1:33:33 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO announced the consideration of SENATE BILL NO. 160 "An Act providing a premium tax credit for flood insurance; relating to flood insurance; relating to property insurance; establishing the Alaska Flood Authority and the Alaska flood insurance fund; and providing for an effective date."

[This is the second hearing and public testimony was closed 3/23/2022.]

She noted that there was a committee substitute (CS) for the committee to consider.

[1:33:45 PM](#)

SENATOR MICCICHE moved to adopt the work draft committee substitute (CS) for SB 160, work order 32-LS 0618\I, as the working document.

CHAIR COSTELLO objected an explanation of the changes.

[1:34:19 PM](#)

KATIE MCCALL, Staff, Senator Mia Costello, Alaska State Legislature, Juneau, Alaska, presented the changes between version A and I for SB 160.

Page 1, Line 1

Removes "providing a premium tax credit for flood insurance" from the bill title.

Page 1, Line 5

Removes the previous new subsection that allowed a qualified insurer to obtain a premium tax credit under AS 21.60.200(e)

Page 7, Line 14

Removes "premium tax credit" from the title of Sec. 21.60.200

Page 7, Line 22

Reduces the percentage of a member's liability in this section from six percent to 2.7 percent of the total direct premium.

Page 8, Line 19

Removes the subsection that allowed a member to offset 50 percent of the amount of the assessment as a premium tax credit.

Page 8, Line 21

Reduces the amount that the legislature may appropriate from cash reserves of the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation to the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development to satisfy an unpaid claim from \$10,000,000 to \$5,000,000.

Page 9, Line 10

Removes language allowing the insurance plan to take effect retroactively to the date of the application.

Page 9, Line 11

Removes additional retroactive language related to when the insurance plan goes into effect.

Page 11, Line 13

Updates the deadline to submit a suitable plan of operation under the Transition: Plan of Operation section from January 1, 2023, to January 1, 2024.

Page 11, Line 18

Updates the effective date of the bill from July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2023.

[1:36:22 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO removed her objection. Finding no further objection, version I was adopted.

CHAIR COSTELLO asked if there were questions.

SENATOR MICCICHE said he had not had time to read the CS, but he didn't have any questions.

[1:37:00 PM](#)

At ease

[1:40:00 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO reconvened the meeting.

[1:40:05 PM](#)

SENATOR MICCICHE said he didn't object to moving the bill from committee because the sponsor guaranteed to work on it over the interim. He related that he struggles with the bill fundamentally because he is not aware of any other state that covers flood insurance. Typically, when there is a flood the cost can run into the billions which is why flood insurance is cost prohibitive. He added that he wasn't ruling out supporting a better bill sometime in the future.

[1:41:05 PM](#)

SENATOR MICCICHE moved to report the CS for SB 160, work order 32-LS 0618\I, from committee with individual recommendations and attached fiscal note(s).

CHAIR COSTELLO found no objection and CSSB 160(L&C) was reported from the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee.

[1:41:32 PM](#)

At ease

SB 225-TEACHER REGISTERED APPRENTICE PROGRAMS

[1:45:44 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO announced the consideration of SENATE BILL NO. 225 "An Act relating to a paraprofessional training program; creating a teacher resident certificate; creating a teacher residency program; relating to requirements to issue a teacher certificate; relating to subject-matter expert limited teacher certificates; relating to limited teacher certificates; creating a teacher registered apprenticeship program; and creating a teacher registered apprenticeship program fund."

She solicited a motion to adopt the committee substitute.

[1:46:00 PM](#)

SENATOR MICCICHE moved to adopt the work draft committee substitute (CS) for SB 225, work order 32-LS 1439\0, as the working document.

[1:46:15 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO objected for purposes of an explanation.

[1:46:25 PM](#)

ED KING, Staff, Senator Roger Holland, Alaska State Legislature, Juneau, Alaska, paraphrased the following changes between version G and version O of SB 225:

Page 5, Line 24 - Page 8, Line 1

Provides clarifying language regarding the teacher residency program.

MR. KING stated the changes to the teacher residency program were made to align to national best standards.

Page 9, Line 30

Makes a conforming change to the alternative competency demonstration language added in Section 4.

Page 10, Line 9

Adds a technical fix to account for a teacher getting fully certified during the extension of a two-year subject matter expert certificate.

Page 11, Line 1 - Page 12, Line 17

Restructures the apprenticeship language to more closely align with the new structure of the residency program in Section 2.

CHAIR COSTELLO asked for a description of the structure of the residency program and how it would work.

MR. KING explained that the residency program provides an alternative path to full certification for individuals who have a college degree, but not in education. A post-graduate teacher preparation program is required to become a fully certified teacher. The teacher residency program creates a way for an individual with a degree to get paid while receiving in-class instruction and doing the necessary course work. This CS provides more definition and makes it more consistent with what other states are doing in their teacher residency programs.

CHAIR COSTELLO asked if this affects the Master of Arts in Teaching program. In that program the student is in a school for one day a week for a school year.

[1:49:20 PM](#)

MR. KING replied this provides a third alternative approach. The typical approach would be to go to school for a year to get a teaching certificate. An existing alternative is the subject matter expert program that allows the student to work as they go to school. This isn't very structured and the data indicates that the turnover is high for individuals who take that approach. The national best practice is to do a structured first year in the classroom with an experienced teacher. The proposed teacher residency program creates a third path as an alternative to the other two.

[1:50:10 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO removed her objection. Finding no further objection, version O was adopted.

CHAIR COSTELLO commented that she was pleased to be looking at alternative ways to hire more teachers, particularly people who were raised in Alaska because they understand the problems.

SENATOR MICCICHE agreed and said he believes this will solve problems in both urban and rural Alaska.

[1:51:11 PM](#)

SENATOR MICCICHE moved to report the CS for SB 225, work order 32-LS 1439\0, from committee with individual recommendations and attached fiscal note(s).

[1:51:29 PM](#)

CHAIR COSTELLO found no objection and CSSB 225(L&C) was reported from the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee.

[1:51:45 PM](#)

There being no further business to come before the committee, Chair Costello adjourned the Senate Labor and Commerce Standing Committee meeting at 1:51 p.m.