

AMENDMENT #20

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE
TO: CSSB 140(FIN)

BY REPRESENTATIVE JOSEPHSON

1 Page 1, line 1, following "**districts**";: *(little amendments)*

2 Insert "**relating to instruction in mental health**;"

3

4 Page 1, following line 3:

5 Insert new bill sections to read:

6 **"* Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
7 to read:

8 LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the legislature that the Board of Education
9 and Early Development develop guidelines for instruction in mental health in consultation
10 with the Department of Health, the Department of Family and Community Services, regional
11 tribal health organizations, and representatives of national and state mental health
12 organizations.

13 *** Sec. 2.** AS 14.03.016(a) is amended to read:

14 (a) A local school board shall, in consultation with parents, teachers, and
15 school administrators, adopt policies to promote the involvement of parents in the
16 school district's education program. The policies must include procedures

17 (1) recognizing the authority of a parent and allowing a parent to
18 object to and withdraw the child from a standards-based assessment or test required by
19 the state;

20 (2) recognizing the authority of a parent and allowing a parent to
21 object to and withdraw the child from an activity, class, or program;

22 (3) providing for parent notification not less than two weeks before
23 any activity, class, or program that includes content involving human reproduction or

1 sexual matters is provided to a child;

2 (4) recognizing the authority of a parent and allowing a parent to
3 withdraw the child from an activity, class, program, or standards-based assessment or
4 test required by the state for a religious holiday, as defined by the parent;

5 (5) providing a parent with an opportunity to review the content of an
6 activity, class, performance standard, or program;

7 (6) ensuring that, when a child is absent from an activity, class,
8 program, or standards-based assessment or test required by the state under this section,
9 the absence is not considered an unlawful absence under AS 14.30.020 if the child's
10 parent withdrew the child from the activity, class, program, or standards-based
11 assessment or test or gave permission for the child's absence;

12 (7) providing for parent notification not less than two weeks before
13 any class or program that provides instruction in mental health is provided to a
14 child."

15
16 Page 1, line 4:

17 Delete "Section 1"

18 Insert "Sec. 3"

19
20 Renumber the following bill section accordingly.

21
22 Page 1, line 10:

23 Delete all material and insert:

24 "** Sec. 4. AS 14.30.360(a) is amended to read:

25 (a) Each district in the state public school system shall be encouraged to
26 initiate and conduct a program in health education for kindergarten through grade 12.
27 The program should include instruction in [PHYSICAL] health and personal safety
28 including alcohol and drug abuse education, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR),
29 early cancer prevention and detection, dental health, family health including infant
30 care, environmental health, mental health, physical health, the identification and
31 prevention of child abuse, child abduction, neglect, sexual abuse, and domestic

1 violence, and appropriate use of health services.

2 * **Sec. 5.** AS 14.30.360(b) is amended to read:

3 (b) The state board shall establish guidelines for a health and personal safety
4 education program, including guidelines for developmentally appropriate
5 instruction in mental health. In developing guidelines for developmentally
6 appropriate instruction in mental health, the state board shall consult with the
7 Department of Health, the Department of Family and Community Services,
8 regional tribal health organizations, and representatives of national and state
9 mental health organizations. Personal safety guidelines shall be developed in
10 consultation with the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Upon
11 request, the Department of Education and Early Development, the Department of
12 Health, the Department of Family and Community Services, and the Council on
13 Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault shall provide technical assistance to school
14 districts in the development of personal safety curricula. A school health education
15 specialist position shall be established and funded in the department to coordinate the
16 program statewide. Adequate funds to enable curriculum and resource development,
17 adequate consultation to school districts, and a program of teacher training in health
18 and personal safety education shall be provided.

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

21 REPORT TO LEGISLATURE. On July 1, 2026, the state Board of Education and
22 Early Development shall submit a report to the senate secretary and chief clerk of the house of
23 representatives and notify the legislature that the report is available. The report must

24 (1) include a copy of the guidelines for developmentally appropriate
25 instruction in mental health developed by the state Board of Education and Early
26 Development as required under AS 14.30.360(b), as amended by sec. 5 of this Act; and

27 (2) describe the process the state Board of Education and Early Development
28 used to develop the guidelines.

29 * **Sec. 7.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
30 read:

31 TRANSITION: MENTAL HEALTH GUIDELINES. The state Board of Education

1 and Early Development shall develop the mental health guidelines required by
2 AS 14.30.360(b), as amended by sec. 5 of this Act, before July 1, 2026.

3 * **Sec. 8.** Section 3 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

4 * **Sec. 9.** Except as provided in sec. 8 of this Act, this Act takes effect July 1, 2024."