

HOUSE BILL NO. 6

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES RAUSCHER, Armstrong, Story, McKay

Introduced: 1/19/23

Referred: Health and Social Services, Education, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the duties of the Department of Education and Early Development;**
2 **relating to public education; relating to opioid abuse awareness and prevention; and**
3 **providing for an effective date."**

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

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

6 **Sec. 14.30.363. Opioid abuse awareness and prevention curriculum. (a)**

7 The department shall develop an opioid abuse awareness and prevention curriculum
8 for students in grades six through 12 relating to the dangers associated with, and the
9 physical, psychological, and physiological consequences related to, opioid abuse and
10 opioid addiction. The curriculum must provide at least 60 minutes of instruction
11 annually relating to opioid abuse awareness and prevention, including

12 (1) the dangers of using opioids, including drugs that may contain
13 fentanyl;

14 (2) awareness of opioids that target children, including drugs

1 containing fentanyl that are designed to look like candy;

2 (3) the science related to using opioids, including drugs that contain
3 fentanyl;

4 (4) prevention of opioid abuse, including safe use of opioid
5 prescription medications; and

6 (5) detection of early warning signs related to opioid addiction in
7 school-aged children.

8 (b) In developing the curriculum, the department shall consult with

9 (1) the Department of Health;

10 (2) state and tribal entities and state residents that have experience in
11 reducing, preventing, and responding to opioid overdoses, including overdoses caused
12 by drugs containing fentanyl; and

13 (3) family members of individuals who have had an opioid overdose,
14 including overdoses caused by drugs containing fentanyl.

15 (c) Each school district shall teach the curriculum

16 (1) to students in grades six through 12; and

17 (2) during, or as close as practicable to, the last week in October.

18 (d) In this section,

19 (1) "curriculum" means the opioid abuse awareness and prevention
20 curriculum described in (a) of this section;

21 (2) "drugs" has the meaning given in AS 47.37.270;

22 (3) "opioid" has the meaning given in AS 17.20.085(e);

23 (4) "opioid abuse" and "opioid addiction" mean

24 (A) a physiological or psychological dependency, or both, on
25 an opioid; or

26 (B) habitual lack of self-control in using opioids to the extent
27 that a person's health is substantially impaired or a person's social or economic
28 function is substantially disrupted;

29 (5) "school district" has the meaning given in AS 14.30.350.

30 * **Sec. 2.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
31 read:

1 TRANSITION. (a) The Department of Education and Early Development may adopt
2 regulations necessary to implement this Act. The regulations take effect under AS 44.62
3 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the effective date of the law implemented by
4 the regulation.

5 (b) Not later than June 30, 2023, the Department of Education and Early
6 Development shall develop an opioid abuse awareness and prevention curriculum as
7 described in AS 14.30.363(a), enacted by sec. 1 of this Act.

8 * **Sec. 3.** AS 14.30.363(c), enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, takes effect September 1, 2023.

9 * **Sec. 4.** Except as provided in sec. 3 of this Act, this Act takes effect immediately under
10 AS 01.10.070(c).