

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MR. STEWART

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 193

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

4 TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act to provide for emergency financial  
7 assistance to school districts under certain  
8 conditions; fixing standards and procedures  
9 for allowing such assistance; and setting  
10 effective dates for the operation of the  
11 Act."

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA:

13 Section 1. It is the intent and purpose of this Act to pro-  
14 vide limited emergency financial assistance, in addition to that  
15 provided by Article 5, Title 37, ASLA 1949, to school districts  
16 wherein the financial circumstances, as determined upon the basis  
17 of standards fixed by this Act, threaten to jeopardize con-  
18 tinuance of an adequate school program.

19 Sec. 2. The school board of any incorporated, independent,  
20 or city school district, wherein the assessed values of all real  
21 and personal property subject to taxation therein, divided by the  
22 average daily membership of all student pupils for the preceding  
23 school year, totals less than \$11,000, may apply for and receive  
24 emergency financial assistance under this Act. For the purposes  
25 herein the assessed value of the real and personal property sub-  
26 ject to taxation in a district shall be determined upon an  
27 assessment basis of not less than 75% of the actual value of the  
28 property.

29 Sec. 3. Upon receipt of an application for assistance under

1 this Act, the Commissioner of Education shall make an immediate  
2 investigation of the financial circumstances of the applying  
3 district and report thereon to the Board of Education. If by the  
4 investigation and report it appears that a property tax levy of  
5 ten mills on the real and personal property in the district, as-  
6 sessed on the basis provided in Section 2 of this Act, plus all  
7 additional revenues from tuition, Federal or Territorial aid, or  
8 other sources, would be insufficient to meet the requirements of  
9 the current year's budget of the district, as approved pursuant  
10 to Article 5, Title 37, ASLA 1947, the Board may direct the Com-  
11 missioner to give emergency financial assistance to the district  
12 as provided in this Act. School districts receiving special  
13 financial assistance from the Alaska Native Service shall not be  
14 eligible for assistance under this Act.

15 Sec. 4. The financial assistance authorized herein shall be  
16 in an amount determined necessary by the Commissioner, but it  
17 shall not exceed 10% of that portion of the approved budget of  
18 the district on which Territorial refunds are determined for the  
19 current year or \$5,000, whichever is the lesser amount. Payment  
20 shall be made upon vouchers approved by the Commissioner of  
21 Education, either in a single payment or in such other manner as  
22 he may deem advisable. The Commissioner may withhold assistance  
23 for any district which fails to pay the salaries of its teachers  
24 currently and in full, and such district shall be liable to re-  
25 pay on demand by the Commissioner any sums theretofore allowed  
26 it under this Act in the current school year.

27 Sec. 5. Funds for administration of this Act shall be in-  
28 cluded in those appropriated for the support of schools in the  
29 Territory.

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Sec. 6. This Act shall take effect July 1, 1955, and shall terminate June 30, 1957, unless otherwise provided by law.