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IN THE HOUSE

BY RULES COMMITTEE
BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 262

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act regarding special education for exceptional children in Alaska; amending Ch. 120, SLA 1959."

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

Section 1. Sec. 3, Ch. 120, SLA 1959 is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 3. ELIGIBILITY. The School Board of any school district may establish and maintain special classes for five (5) or more exceptional children who are residents of such district and/or such exceptional children who are residents of other areas, which cannot meet the requirements for establishing and maintaining special classes. In any school district where the parents of five (5) or more of any type of exceptional children, or types which may be taught together, petition the Board of Education of that district for a special class, it shall be the duty of the school authorities to request the State Department of Education and the State Department of Health and Welfare to cooperate in the establishment of such class or classes under rules and regulations established for this purpose by the State Department of Education and the State Department of Health and Welfare; provided also, that two (2) or more adjacent school districts may join together and contract to establish a special class or classes. In such

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case the various districts are to be reimbursed 100 per-
cent of the salary of the teacher of the special education
classes provided for in this Act. For purposes of reim-
bursement, a class is considered to have 18 students or
less. If there are 20 students in the class, the State
Department of Education shall reimburse for two teachers.
The reimbursible allowance for teaching supplies is \$20
per student. [IN SUCH A CASE THE VARIOUS DISTRICTS ARE
TO BE PAID THE COST OF EDUCATING THE CHILDREN IN THE
SPECIAL CLASS OR CLASSES OVER AND ABOVE THE AVERAGE PER
CAPITA COST OF EDUCATING NORMAL CHILDREN IN THE RESPECTIVE
SCHOOL DISTRICTS NOT TO EXCEED 150% FOR THE MENTALLY
RETARDED CHILDREN AND 200% FOR THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED.]
In other areas where there is not sufficient number for
the organization of a special class or classes, exceptional
children may be entered in special classes in any other
district; and all per capita apportionment paid to such
areas for each such school child shall be transferred to
the school district that provides the facilities for their
education by the proper authorities.

Sec. 2. Sec. 13, Ch. 120, SLA 1959 is amended to read
as follows:

Sec. 13. APPROPRIATIONS: PURPOSES. The appropriations
made under the authority of the provisions of this Act
are to be used to pay school districts, establishing and
maintaining special classes 100 percent of the cost of the
teachers' salaries on the state salary schedule, as well
as an allowance for teaching supplies of \$20 per student.

[, THE EXCESS COST OF INSTRUCTING EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN,

1 WHICH COST IS OVER AND ABOVE THE AVERAGE PER CAPITA COST OF
2 EDUCATING NORMAL CHILDREN IN THE RESPECTIVE SCHOOL DIS-
3 TRICTS. THIS AGGREGATE EXCESS COST SHALL BE ALLOCATED
4 FOR PAYMENT OF TEACHERS' SALARIES, INCLUDING CORRECTIVE
5 TEACHING, SUCH AS LIP READING, SPEECH AND HEARING THERAPY,
6 SIGHT CONSERVATION, AND CORRECTIVE HEALTH HABITS; NECES-
7 SARY SCHOOLROOM EQUIPMENT, AND TRANSPORTATION. SUCH EXCESS
8 COST SHALL NOT EXCEED 150% FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED
9 AND 200% FOR THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED, OVER AND ABOVE
10 THE AVERAGE PER CAPITA COST OF EDUCATING NORMAL CHILDREN
11 IN THE RESPECTIVE SCHOOL DISTRICTS.]

12 Sec. 3. Sec. 17, Ch. 120, SLA 1959 is amended to read as
13 follows:

14 Sec. 17. APPLICATION FOR ENROLLMENT. The parents,
15 [OR] guardians, or school administrator of any exceptional
16 child residing in such district or districts, shall make
17 application upon prescribed form for the enrollment of
18 such child to the local superintendent of schools, where
19 one is available, or to the supervisor of special education;
20 provided, however, that in the event the administrator
21 initiates the placement, it shall be with the full knowledge
22 and consent of the parent or guardian. Final certification
23 of a student to the program is the responsibility of the
24 supervisor of special education. Such child shall there-
25 upon undergo physical and psychological examination by
26 accredited personnel for the purpose of determining whether
27 or not he is capable of receiving benefit from participa-
28 tions in such a special educational program, and if
29 determined eligible and capable of receiving the indicated

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benefits, and upon approval of application by the supervisor of special education, shall thereupon be recommended for enrollment.

Sec. 4. Sec. 5, Ch. 120, SLA 1959 is repealed.