

BY GRAVEL, LEFEVRE, CHRISTIANSEN,
GUESS, BALONE, CARR, JACKSON,
JOHNSON, KERTTULA, MCCOMBE,
O'CONNELL, PINKERTON, POLAND,
SHELDON, WOLD, SEE, AND DITMAN

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 439

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL :

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act defining a regional high school and
7 providing for establishment of a system of
8 regional high schools throughout the state."

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

10 * Section 1. AS 14 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

11 CHAPTER 16. REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS.

12 Sec. 14.16.010. REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM ESTAB-
13 LISHED. (a) A regional high school is a school, offering
14 the pupils of a large surrounding geographic region, a broad
15 and comprehensive academic and vocational education with a
16 full complement of counseling and guidance services, and
17 affording maximum opportunities for social and cultural
18 transition and integration. A regional high school is estab-
19 lished in connection with existing facilities which are
20 appropriately located, and is complemented by dormitory
21 facilities serving pupils from the outlying portions of the
22 region.

23 (b) A system of regional high schools shall be estab-
24 lished as part of the existing system of public schools.

25 (c) The system shall be implemented by the selection
26 of existing schools or school districts having the appro-
27 priate criteria for regional high schools, and by broadening
28 the curriculum, expanding the facilities, and establishing
29 dormitory facilities at each school or district selected so

1 that pupils from the surrounding region may successfully
2 attend the school and receive a comprehensive high school
3 education when none is immediately available to them in
4 their community.

5 (d) The selection of a school suitable for a regional
6 high school shall be made by the legislature or the depart-
7 ment. The conversion of a school so selected into a regional
8 high school shall be accomplished by the department if the
9 school is in the state-operated system, and by the department
10 and the district in cooperation through contractual arrange-
11 ments if the school is in a district.

12 (e) The supervision and control of a regional high
13 school shall be under the school board of the district in
14 which the regional high school is located whenever practi-
15 cable, and under the department when the regional high school
16 is in the state-operated system.

17 (f) When a regional high school is in a district,
18 tuition for nonresident pupils shall be paid by the depart-
19 ment unless, in the case of native pupils, the Bureau of
20 Indian Affairs or another federal agency has sufficient funds
21 available for tuition.

22 Sec. 14.16.020. CRITERIA FOR REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS.

23 The criteria for determining whether a school or a district
24 should be a regional high school are:

25 (1) that the existing school is reasonably well
26 established and adaptable to expansion into a regional high
27 school;

28 (2) that there is in the region which the school
29 can properly serve, a substantial population eligible for

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29

high school; and

(3) that conversion of the school into a regional high school will, through the free interchange of activity between the school and the community, result in increased social and cultural advantage to the pupils.

Sec. 14.16.030. DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT. The department shall

(1) take the necessary action to accomplish the conversion of a school into a regional high school when a school is selected;

(2) contract as is necessary to establish and operate a regional high school;

(3) make an annual report to the legislature describing the operation of existing regional high schools, reviewing schools which may meet the criteria for a regional high school, and covering all other data relevant to regional high schools.