

BY SENATORS PETER
AND POLLOCK

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 159

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to released time from
7 public schools for attendance at religious
8 instruction."

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

10 * Section 1. AS 14.05.040 is amended to read:

11 Sec. 14.05.040. SCHOOL DAY. The school day in every
12 school shall be at least four hours long for the first and
13 second grades, exclusive of intermissions, and five hours for
14 all other grades, exclusive of intermissions. A shorter day
15 for certain grades may be arranged with the approval of the
16 department. The period of the school day shall be devoted
17 to the educational work of the public schools in accordance
18 with the law, except as provided by AS 14.05.045.

19 * Sec. 2. AS 14.05 is amended by adding a new section to read:

20 Sec. 14.05.045. RELEASED TIME. A pupil whose parent
21 or guardian requests that the pupil be permitted to attend
22 private religious instruction given on other than school
23 property shall be excused during the regular school hours for
24 a period not to exceed 90 minutes once a week in order to
25 attend the religious instruction. The period shall, as
26 nearly as possible, be the same for all pupils excused for
27 religious instruction and scheduled for the same time each
28 week, taking advantage, when possible, of study periods and
29 early dismissals caused by the in-service training program

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for teachers.

SB 159