

Introduced: 4/24/75
Referred: Health, Education &
Social Services and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY BUCHHOLDT, PARKER AND
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2 HOUSE BILL NO. 457

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing a program of professional training
7 and continuing education for employees of the state; and
8 providing for an effective date."

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

10 * Section 1. AS 39 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

11 CHAPTER 55. PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND CONTINUING EDUCATION ACT.

12 Sec. 39.55.010. PURPOSE. (a) The purpose of this chapter is the
13 establishment of a cooperative program of postsecondary professional
14 training and continuing education for the employees of the state,
15 including but not limited to the employees of the executive, legislative
16 and judicial branches, with the University of Alaska, enabling state
17 employees to earn college credit, degrees or professional certification
18 in individual academic or vocational programs related to their state
19 employment.

20 (b) It is the policy of the state to ensure that each state
21 employee has an opportunity for professional development and continuing
22 education within his or her field of employment with the state. The
23 University of Alaska has the responsibility to develop a cooperative
24 professional training and continuing education program for state
25 employees to enable them to fully develop the learning potential of their
26 employment.

27 Sec. 39.55.020. ADMINISTRATION. The division of personnel in the
28 Department of Administration shall administer the program established
29 by this chapter. There is created within the division a section on:

1 professional training and continuing education. The section shall create
2 the program design under sec. 50 of this chapter and shall process
3 applications for participation in the program.

4 Sec. 39.55.030. RELATIONSHIP WITH UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA. The
5 program of professional training and continuing education for state
6 employees shall be established in cooperation with the University of
7 Alaska under AS 14.40.105.

8 Sec. 39.55.040. FUNDING; STATE PARTICIPATION. The state shall pay
9 75 per cent of an employee's tuition and fees for the program established
10 under this chapter; the employee shall pay 25 per cent.

11 Sec. 39.55.050. PROGRAM DESIGN. The program for professional
12 training and continuing education for state employees shall be designed
13 to enable a state employee to achieve his professional objectives by
14 raising his or her present educational level in an academic or vocational
15 field related to the employee's area of employment.

16 Sec. 39.55.060. MODIFICATION OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT.

17 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, when necessary to
18 accommodate learning objectives,

19 (1) the department head, or the employee's supervisor, shall
20 modify the employee's work assignments or projects to enable the
21 employee to participate in the program established by this chapter;

22 (2) temporary interdepartmental or interagency assignments
23 or job transfers shall be arranged for employees participating in the
24 program established by this chapter.

25 (b) If an employee's learning objectives in the program established
26 by this chapter requires periods of on-campus class attendance, the
27 employee may attend the class or classes while receiving full pay, with
28 the approval of the department or agency head.

29 Sec. 39.55.070. MANDATORY POST-TRAINING OR EDUCATION STATE EMPLOY-

1 MENT PERIOD. An employee who participates in the program established
2 under this chapter must agree to remain in state employment for a period
3 of two years after completion of his or her degree, certificate or other
4 learning objective. If the employee voluntarily separates from or
5 terminates employment by the state during that two-year period, the
6 employee shall reimburse the state on a pro rata basis the state's
7 contribution to the employee's tuition and fees under sec. 40 of this
8 chapter.

9 Sec. 39.55.080. REGULATIONS. The Department of Administration
10 shall promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of this chapter.

11 Sec. 39.55.090. SHORT TITLE. This chapter may be cited as the
12 Professional Training and Continuing Education Act.

13 * Sec. 2. AS 14.40 is amended by adding a new section to read:

14 Sec. 14.40.105. COOPERATIVE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND CONTINUING
15 EDUCATION FOR STATE EMPLOYEES. The University of Alaska, in cooperation
16 with the Department of Administration, division of personnel, shall
17 establish a program of cooperative professional training and continuing
18 education for state employees in accordance with the provisions of
19 AS 39.55 (Professional Training and Continuing Education Act).

20 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect July 1, 1975.
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