

Introduced: 4/29/79  
Referred: Health, Education &  
Social Services

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY PARKER

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 488

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to class size."

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

8 \* Section 1. AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

9 Sec. 14.03.150. MAXIMUM CLASS SIZE. (a) Except as provided in  
10 AS 14.30.249 and in (b) of this section, the number of children who may  
11 be taught in a single classroom may not exceed 20 in grades one to four,  
12 and 25 in grades five to 12.

13 (b) The commissioner, upon the written request of the school  
14 administrator, may permit the limit prescribed in (a) of this section to  
15 be exceeded by up to 20 per cent in public schools with four or fewer  
16 teachers.

17 \* Sec. 2. AS 14.30 is amended by adding new sections to read:

18 Sec. 14.30.248. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN AN  
19 INTEGRATED CLASS. No more than four exceptional children enrolled in a  
20 program of special education may be placed in a classroom with normal  
21 children.

22 Sec. 14.30.249. MAXIMUM CLASS SIZE. (a) Except as provided in  
23 this section the number of children who may be taught in a single class-  
24 room may not exceed 20 in weighted average daily membership if any of  
25 the children are exceptional children. If only some of the children in  
26 a classroom in grades four through 12 are exceptional children, the  
27 number of children may not exceed 24 in weighted average daily member-  
28 ship. For the purpose of calculating weighted average daily membership,  
29 the following weighting factors shall be applied:

1	Type of Pupil	Weight Factor
2	Normal	1.0
3	Gifted	1.5
4	Learning disabled	2.0
5	Mentally retarded	2.0
6	Orthopedically handicapped	2.0
7	Visually impaired	2.0
8	Emotionally disturbed	2.5
9	Behavior disorder	2.5
10	Blind	2.5
11	Deaf or hearing impaired	2.0
12	Perceptual or communication disorder	2.5
13	Hyperactive	2.5
14	Maximum factor of combinations	4.0.

15 (b) The maximum number of exceptional children who may be taught  
16 in a single classroom may be determined by negotiations between the  
17 school district and the educational organization recognized by the  
18 school board as the bargaining agent for all the certificated staff  
19 under AS 14.20.560(a).

20 (c) In this section, "average daily membership" means the aggre-  
21 gate days of membership of pupils divided by the actual number of days  
22 in session for the school term.