

Original sponsor: Ferguson by request

Offered: 4/16/82  
Referred: Health, Education &  
Social Services and Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL  
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 95 (C&RA) (efd added H)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to election of regional school board  
7 members; and providing for an effective date."

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

9 \* Section 1. AS 14.08.041(d) is amended to read:

10 (d) Subject to (f) of this section, a regional [REGIONAL] school  
11 board member [MEMBERS] shall be elected at large by the qualified voters  
12 of the communities receiving educational services in the entire regional  
13 educational attendance area. However, each seat on the school board  
14 shall be designated by letter or number, and a candidate for regional  
15 school board must indicate the seat for which he is a candidate on his  
16 declaration of candidacy or other nomination papers when he files for  
17 office.

18 \* Sec. 2. AS 14.08.041 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

19 (f) The voters residing within a regional educational attendance  
20 area may petition in accordance with AS 14.08.051(b) to have each  
21 regional school board member elected from a section of the area by the  
22 voters of that section.

23 \* Sec. 3. AS 14.08.051(a) is amended to read:

24 (a) The commissioner in consultation with the Department of Com-  
25 munity and Regional Affairs and the local communities may divide a  
26 regional educational attendance area into sections only for the purpose  
27 of nominating and electing regional school board members. If the voters  
28 in a regional educational attendance area favor election of regional  
29 school board members by sections under (b) of this section, the commis-

1 sioner in consultation with the Department of Community and Regional  
2 Affairs and the local communities shall divide the regional educational  
3 attendance area into sections for the purpose of nominating and electing  
4 regional school board members. If a regional attendance area is divided  
5 into sections each school board member shall represent, as nearly as  
6 practicable, an equal number of persons. The basis for the division of  
7 a regional educational attendance area into sections shall be the total  
8 population of the area as reported in the most recent decennial federal  
9 census. If the census is five years old or older, then other reliable  
10 population data, including but not limited to population estimates based  
11 on public school enrollments, public utility connections, registered  
12 voters or certified employment payrolls, shall be used as the basis for  
13 the division of the area into sections. Each section within a regional  
14 educational attendance area shall consist of compact, contiguous terri-  
15 tory and, as far as practicable, each section shall contain an integrated  
16 socio-economic, linguistically and culturally homogeneous area. In the  
17 division of the regional school attendance area into sections, consider-  
18 ation shall be given to the transportation and communication network to  
19 facilitate the administration of education and communication between  
20 communities that comprise the area. Whenever possible, municipalities,  
21 other governmental or regional corporate entities, drainage basins and  
22 other identifiable geographic features shall be used in describing the  
23 boundaries of the sections.

24 \* Sec. 4. AS 14.08.051(b) is amended to read:

25 (b) The division of a regional educational attendance area into  
26 sections [,] or subsequent recasting of the section boundaries [,] may  
27 be proposed by the regional school board or by a petition. The election  
28 of each regional school board member from a section by the voters of  
29 that section of a regional educational attendance area may be proposed

1 by petition. A petition under this section shall be filed with the  
2 director of elections and shall contain [CONTAINING] signatures of  
3 qualified voters in the area equal to 15 percent of the total vote cast  
4 in the most recent regional school board election. The division of the  
5 area into sections, election of each regional school board member from  
6 a section by the voters of that section, or subsequent recasting of  
7 section boundaries [,] is subject to approval by a majority of the  
8 qualified voters voting on the question in the regional educational  
9 attendance area at the next regular school board election or a special  
10 election called for that purpose, and takes effect at the next regular  
11 school board election.

12 \* Sec. 5. AS 14.08.051(e) is amended to read:

13 (e) If a regional educational attendance area has been divided  
14 into sections, board members shall be residents of the section from  
15 which they are elected. Board members [, BUT THEY] shall be elected by  
16 the qualified voters of the entire regional educational attendance  
17 area, unless the voters have approved election of members by the voters  
18 of the section under (b) of this section.

19 \* Sec. 6. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-  
20 070(c).