

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 248

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to adult basic education."

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

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

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CHAPTER 41. ADULT BASIC EDUCATION.

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Sec. 14.41.010. PURPOSE. It is the purpose of this chapter to

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implement and fund a program of adult basic education and literacy to

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provide reading, writing, math, and other skills necessary to enable

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individuals to

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(1) get and retain employment;

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(2) reduce dependence on the state's social services;

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(3) benefit from occupational training and higher educa-

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tion; and

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(4) lead productive lives and meet adult responsibilities.

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Sec. 14.41.020. DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT. The department shall

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(1) administer the adult basic education grants under this

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chapter to provide support to the adult basic education service

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regions for development and operation of basic skills programs;

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(2) provide technical assistance, monitoring, staff devel-

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opment, and coordination of statewide efforts to conduct adult basic

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education programs;

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(3) adopt an adult basic education plan to be approved by

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the commissioner and evaluated and revised at least once every three

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years;

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(4) present a report on the adult basic education program

1 under this chapter to the legislature on or before the 15th day of
2 each regular session of the legislature; and

3 (5) adopt regulations to implement this chapter.

4 Sec. 14.41.030. ADULT BASIC EDUCATION GRANT FUND. (a) The
5 adult basic education grant fund is established. The department may
6 make grants from the fund to eligible educational institutions for
7 adult basic education programs. Grants shall be made on a competitive
8 basis under AS 36.30 (state procurement code) and a grant process
9 approved by the Department of Administration.

10 (b) The department shall establish by regulation eligibility
11 criteria for receiving grants under this section.

12 Sec. 14.41.040. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "adult basic
13 education" means basic literacy skills necessary to obtain employment,
14 vocational training, or higher education, and includes reading, writ-
15 ing, and speaking English, mathematics, and other basic skills.