

Original sponsors: Herrmann, Davidson,
Goll and Wallis

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 495 (HESS)

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to fisheries education; and provid-
7 ing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

10 (1) the commercial fishing and processing industry contributes
11 millions of dollars to the state's economy and employs thousands of people
12 in the state each year;

13 (2) major segments of the state's commercial fishing and pro-
14 cessing industry are controlled by interests outside the state and outside
15 the United States, and a large proportion of jobs in the industry are held
16 by nonresidents;

17 (3) elementary, secondary, and adult students in the state
18 generally do not receive coordinated instruction about the importance to
19 the state of the commercial fishing and processing industry, and about
20 opportunities for jobs and careers in the industry; and

21 (4) the establishment of fisheries education programs in elemen-
22 tary, secondary, vocational, and community schools would be of great bene-
23 fit to Alaskans, to the industry, and to the state's economy.

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

25 ARTICLE 5A. FISHERIES EDUCATION.

26 Sec. 14.30.420. FISHERIES EDUCATION PROGRAMS. (a) A school
27 board may establish a fisheries education program in elementary,
28 secondary, vocational, and community schools in the district or re-
29 gional educational attendance area.

1 (b) A school designated by the department under AS 14.35.025(5)
2 may establish a fisheries education program as a part of its voca-
3 tional education or vocational rehabilitation plan.

4 (c) Under AS 14.07.020(a)(12) and this section, the department
5 shall develop and implement model fisheries education programs and
6 instructional materials. The department shall encourage and assist
7 schools to develop programs under (a) and (b) of this section.

8 Sec. 14.30.425. FISHERIES EDUCATION FUND AND GRANTS. (a) There
9 is established in the department the fisheries education fund as an
10 account in the general fund. The fund consists of (1) money appropri-
11 ated to it, and (2) federal funds and private grants, endowments, and
12 contributions for fisheries education that the department may apply
13 for or accept subject to AS 37.07. Money deposited in the fund may be
14 used to make grants to develop and implement fisheries education
15 programs, model programs, and to develop instructional materials.
16 Money in the fund under (2) of this subsection shall be used for a
17 purpose that is consistent with AS 14.30.420 - 14.30.435 and applica-
18 ble federal law or terms and conditions of a private grant, endowment,
19 or contribution.

20 (b) The department shall adopt regulations for the determination
21 of entitlement to fisheries education grants, application and approval
22 of grants, and administration of grants. In making grants under this
23 section, the department shall consider programs that are designed to
24 assist in the economic development of the attendance area served by
25 the applicant and shall give priority to programs in elementary and
26 secondary schools.

27 Sec. 14.30.430. REPORT. The department shall report to the
28 governor and the legislature, by January 31 of each year, a summary of
29 its activities under AS 14.30.420 - 14.30.435 during the preceding

1 calendar year. The report must include a description of each grant
2 made under AS 14.30.425.

3 Sec. 14.30.435. DEFINITION. In AS 14.30.420 - 14.30.430 "fish-
4 eries education program" means a coordinated program of instruction
5 that includes instruction in one or more of the following:

6 (1) the importance to the state of the commercial fishing
7 and processing industry;

8 (2) opportunities for jobs and careers in the industry;

9 (3) skills relevant to employment in the industry;

10 (4) other components identified by the department under
11 AS 14.30.420(c).

12 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).