

Introduced: 2/16/88
Referred: Health, Education and
Social Services and Finance

5-1834A

1 IN THE SENATE

BY DUNCAN AND JOSEPHSON

2

SENATE BILL NO. 452

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 alternative education for certain
7 school children; and providing for an effective
8 date."

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

10 * Section 1. AS 14.07.020(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to
11 read:

12 (15) study and report on the needs of children at risk
13 identified under AS 14.30.450.

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

15 ARTICLE 5A. PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AT RISK OF LEAVING SCHOOL.

16 Sec. 14.30.450. IDENTIFICATION AND PLAN. (a) Each school board
17 shall annually identify children at risk who are or should be enrolled
18 in the district and may develop a plan describing how the school board
19 will meet the needs of children at risk through curriculum modifica-
20 tions and alternative programs that meet the minimum course of study
21 for public schools prescribed by the department. A plan developed
22 under this subsection must also describe how remedial instruction,
23 parental involvement, and community support services will be used to
24 meet the needs of children at risk.

25 (b) If, in the previous school year, a district had 50 or more
26 dropouts or a dropout rate exceeding five percent of the district's
27 total secondary school enrollment, the school board shall submit a
28 plan developed under (a) of this section to the commissioner for
29 approval.

1 Sec. 14.30.460. EDUCATION PROGRAM. Each school board may pro-
2 vide an education program for children at risk who are enrolled in the
3 district.

4 Sec. 14.30.470. STATE AID FOR PROGRAMS. A district is entitled
5 to additional state aid as provided under AS 14.17.049 if the commis-
6 sioner determines that during the previous school year the district's
7 program for children at risk meets at least three of the following
8 criteria:

- 9 (1) a retention rate of at least 70 percent;
- 10 (2) an attendance rate of at least 70 percent;
- 11 (3) graduation of 70 percent of the seniors enrolled;
- 12 (4) at least 70 percent of the pupils enrolled received
13 academic credit; or
- 14 (5) the program maintained an average of at least one month
15 of improvement in reading and mathematics performance for each month
16 of instruction.

17 Sec. 14.30.480. DEFINITIONS. In AS 14.30.450 - 14.30.480

18 (1) "child at risk" means a child who is not attending
19 school as required by AS 14.30.010, or who is one or more years behind
20 the child's age group in the number of credits attained or in basic
21 skill levels, including reading and mathematics;

22 (2) "district" has the meaning given in AS 14.12.010;

23 (3) "dropout" means a child who is not attending school,
24 continues to reside in the district, does not attend a vocational,
25 technical, or adult education program, and has not graduated from high
26 school.

27 * Sec. 3. AS 14.17.031(a) is amended to read:

28 (a) The department shall adopt regulations defining funding
29 communities within each district which reflect geographic and

1 attendance area factors. For the purpose of determining instructional
2 units, students are counted in the district and the funding community
3 from which they receive educational services. The total number of
4 instructional units in a school district is the sum of the following
5 units for each funding community within the district, as determined by
6 the department

7 (1) the number of units for elementary and secondary stu-
8 dents determined under AS 14.17.041(a) or (b);

9 (2) the number of units for vocational education determined
10 under AS 14.17.043;

11 (3) the number of units for special education determined
12 under AS 14.17.045; [AND]

13 (4) the number of units for bilingual education determined
14 under AS 14.17.047; and

15 (5) the number of units for alternative education deter-
16 mined under AS 14.17.049.

17 * Sec. 4. AS 14.17 is amended by adding a new section to read:

18 Sec. 14.17.049. INSTRUCTIONAL UNITS FOR CERTAIN ALTERNATIVE
19 PROGRAMS. A child who is enrolled in a child at risk program estab-
20 lished under AS 14.30.460 and who is enrolled on the last day of the
21 counting period for which a determination is being made generates
22 0.025 instructional units if the child receives child at risk services
23 and the program is entitled to receive funding under AS 14.30.470.

24 * Sec. 5. This Act takes effect July 1, 1988.