

HOUSE BILL NO. 7

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES BOYER, Brown, Ulmer, Ellis, B.Davis

Introduced: 1/21/91

Referred: Health, Education and Social Services, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to public school health and personal safety education."

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 * **Section 1. PURPOSE.** The purpose of this Act is to foster the development and dissemination of
4 educational activities and materials that will assist students, teachers, administrators, and parents in the
5 perception, appreciation, and understanding of health principles and problems, and responsible personal
6 behavior.

7 * **Sec. 2.** AS 14.08.115 is amended to read:

8 **Sec. 14.08.115. ADVISORY SCHOOL BOARDS AND COMMITTEES IN REGIONAL**
9 **EDUCATIONAL ATTENDANCE AREAS.** (a) A regional school board shall establish advisory
10 school boards **and health education curriculum advisory committees** in each community in
11 the regional educational attendance area that has more than 50 permanent residents, and by
12 regulation shall prescribe their manner of selection and organization, and, in a manner consistent
13 with (b) of this section, their powers and duties.

14 (b) An advisory board shall advise the regional school board on all matters concerning

1 schools in the community in which the advisory board is established. A health education
2 curriculum advisory committee shall advise the regional school board on the health
3 education curriculum at schools in the community in which the committee is established.

4 * Sec. 3. AS 14.12.035 is amended to read:

5 Sec. 14.12.035. ADVISORY SCHOOL BOARDS AND COMMITTEES IN BOROUGH
6 SCHOOL DISTRICTS. A borough school district board shall establish a health education
7 curriculum advisory committee and may establish other advisory school boards or
8 committees, and by regulation shall prescribe their manner of selection, organization, powers,
9 and duties.

10 * Sec. 4. AS 14.30.360 is amended to read:

11 Sec. 14.30.360. CURRICULUM. (a) Each district in the state public school system shall
12 [BE ENCOURAGED TO] initiate and conduct a program in comprehensive health education for
13 kindergarten through grade 12. The program must [SHOULD] include

14 (1) age appropriate instruction in physical health and personal safety including

15 (A) alcohol and substance [DRUG] abuse and fetal alcohol syndrome
16 education;

17 (B) first aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR);

18 (C) human growth and development, including human sexuality,
19 reproductive health, pregnancy prevention, prevention and control of diseases,
20 including acquired immune deficiency syndrome and other sexually transmitted
21 diseases;

22 (D) mental and emotional health, including suicide prevention;

23 (E) [,] early cancer prevention and detection, nutrition, dental health,
24 family health, environmental health;

25 (F) [,] the identification and prevention of child abuse, child abduction,
26 neglect, and sexual abuse, and domestic violence; [,] and

27 (G) appropriate use of health services;

28 (2) training, support groups, and pertinent literature designed to assist
29 parents and other members of the community to participate in health and personal safety
30 education;

31 (3) a district curriculum and curriculum materials developed in conjunction

1 with the district health education curriculum advisory committee; and

2 (4) a method of notifying parents of students of the content of instructional
3 materials used in the human growth and development program and of the parents' option
4 to exempt their child from human growth and development instruction; a district shall use
5 procedures to provide that students exempted from the program are not embarrassed by
6 the exemption.

7 (b) The state board shall establish guidelines for a comprehensive health and personal
8 safety education program. Personal safety guidelines shall be developed in consultation with the
9 Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Upon request, the Department of Education,
10 the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Health and Social Services, and the
11 Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault shall provide technical assistance to school
12 districts in the development of personal safety curricula. A school health and personal safety
13 education specialist position shall be established and funded in the department to coordinate the
14 program statewide. Adequate funds to enable curriculum and resource development, adequate
15 consultation to school districts, and a program of [TEACHER] training and periodic staff devel-
16 opment for administrators and teachers in health and personal safety education shall be
17 provided.

18 * Sec. 5. AS 14.30.360 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

19 (c) In this section,

20 (1) "family health" includes

21 (A) an understanding of the physical, mental, emotional, social, economic,
22 and psychological aspects of close personal relationships and an understanding of the
23 physiological, psychological, and cultural foundations of human development;

24 (B) the development of responsible personal values and behavior and the
25 establishing of a strong family life for students in the future, with emphasis on the
26 responsibilities of parenting;

27 (C) knowledge of the law relating to the sexual conduct of minors and
28 sexual abuse of minors, including criminal sexual conduct;

29 (2) "health and personal safety education" includes health education in a school
30 setting that is planned and carried out with the purpose of maintaining, reinforcing, or enhancing
31 the health, health-related skills, and health attitudes and practices of children and youth that are

1 conductive to their good health and that promote wellness, health maintenance, and disease
2 prevention; it includes age-appropriate, sequential instruction in health either as part of an
3 existing course or as a special course;

4 (3) "pregnancy prevention" includes

5 (A) abstaining from sexual activity until marriage;

6 (B) skills to enable students to resist peer pressure and abstain from sexual
7 activity;

8 (C) methods of contraception, and the risks and benefits of each method;

9 (4) "reproductive health" includes human physiology, conception, prenatal care
10 and development, fetal alcohol syndrome, childbirth, and postnatal care.

11 * **Sec. 6. TRANSITION.** Each district shall begin development of the comprehensive health
12 education curriculum required by this Act by July 1, 1991, and shall have in place a program of
13 comprehensive health education required by this Act by August 1, 1993.