

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 7 (HES)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/13/91

Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES BOYER, Brown, Ulmer, Ellis, B.Davis, Bruckman

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

4 (1) foster the development and dissemination of educational activities and materials that
5 will assist students, teachers, administrators, and parents in the perception, appreciation, and
6 understanding of health principles and problems, and responsible personal behavior;

7 (2) bring the appropriate agencies of government into the process of developing and
8 implementing health and personal safety education;

9 (3) encourage the University of Alaska to add a three-credit course in health education
10 and a three-credit course in personal safety education to the core requirements for a degree in elementary
11 or secondary education.

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

13 Sec. 14.08.115. ADVISORY SCHOOL BOARDS AND COMMITTEES IN REGIONAL
14 EDUCATIONAL ATTENDANCE AREAS. (a) A regional school board shall establish advisory

1 school boards and may establish health education curriculum advisory committees in each
2 community in the regional educational attendance area that has more than 50 permanent residents,
3 and by regulation shall prescribe their manner of selection and organization, and, in a manner
4 consistent with (b) of this section, their powers and duties.

5 (b) An advisory board shall advise the regional school board on all matters concerning
6 schools in the community in which the advisory board is established. A health education
7 curriculum advisory committee shall advise the regional school board on the health
8 education curriculum at schools in the community in which the committee is established.

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

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

15 * Sec. 4. AS 14.30.360 is repealed and reenacted to read:

16 Sec. 14.30.360. CURRICULUM. (a) Each district in the state public school system
17 shall initiate and conduct a program in comprehensive health education for kindergarten through
18 grade 12. The program must include

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

20 (A) alcohol, tobacco and substance use and abuse and fetal alcohol
21 syndrome education;

22 (B) first aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), outdoor
23 survival skills and water and boating safety;

24 (C) human growth and development, including human sexuality,
25 reproductive health, pregnancy prevention, prevention and control of diseases, including
26 acquired immune deficiency syndrome and other sexually transmitted diseases;

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

28 (E) early cancer prevention and detection, nutrition, dental health, family
29 health, environmental health;

30 (F) the identification and prevention of child abuse, child abduction,
31 neglect, and sexual abuse, and domestic violence; and

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- (G) appropriate use of health services;
- (2) training, support groups, and pertinent literature designed to assist parents and other members of the community to participate in health and personal safety education;
- (3) a district curriculum and curriculum materials developed in conjunction with the district health education curriculum advisory committee; and
- (4) a method of notifying parents of students of the content of instructional materials used in the human growth and development program and of the parents' option to exempt their child from human growth and development instruction; a district shall use procedures to provide that students exempted from the program are not embarrassed by the exemption.

(b) The board shall establish guidelines for a comprehensive health and personal safety education program. Upon request, agencies of state government shall provide technical assistance to school districts in the development and delivery of health and personal safety curricula. A school health and personal safety position shall be established and funded in the department to coordinate the program statewide. Adequate funds to enable curriculum and resource development, adequate consultation to school districts, and a program of training and periodic staff development for administrators and teachers in health and personal safety education shall be provided. The board shall develop

- (1) personal safety guidelines in consultation with the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, and other appropriate state agencies;
- (2) health education guidelines in consultation with the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Social Services, the University of Alaska, and other appropriate state agencies.

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

- (c) In this section,
 - (1) "family health" includes
 - (A) an understanding of the physical, mental, emotional, social, economic, and psychological aspects of close personal relationships and an understanding of the physiological, psychological, and cultural foundations of human development;
 - (B) the development of responsible personal values and behavior and the

1 establishing of a strong family life for students in the future, with emphasis on the
2 responsibilities of parenting;

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

5 (2) "health and personal safety education" includes health education in a school
6 setting that is planned and carried out with the purpose of maintaining, reinforcing, or enhancing
7 the health, health-related skills, and health attitudes and practices of children and youth that are
8 conducive to their good health and that promote wellness, health maintenance, and disease
9 prevention; it includes age-appropriate, sequential instruction in health either as part of an
10 existing course or as a special course;

11 (3) "pregnancy prevention" includes

12 (A) abstaining from sexual activity until marriage;

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

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

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

18 * Sec. 6. TRANSITION. Each school district shall begin development of the comprehensive health
19 education curriculum required by this Act by July 1, 1992, and shall have in place a program of
20 comprehensive health education required by this Act by August 1, 1994.

21 * Sec. 7. REPORT; SURVEY. The Department of Education shall report back to the legislature by
22 March 1, 1993, on the progress each district has made in implementing this Act. The Legislative
23 Research Agency shall conduct a survey of a representative sample of school districts to determine the
24 cost of implementing health and personal safety education curricula in a school district. The survey shall
25 be conducted in the fall of 1992 and be submitted to the legislature by February 15, 1993.