

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 203 (2d FINANCE)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION**

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/28/92

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES BROWN, MacLean, B.Davis, Koponen, Ellis, Bruckman, Ulmer, C.Davis

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act establishing the Alaska education technology program; and providing for an
2 effective date."

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

4 * **Section 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.** (a) The legislature finds that

5 (1) 75 percent of the labor force in the state is unprepared to deal with rapidly changing
6 technology;

7 (2) the education system and publicly funded libraries can help in creating a trained labor
8 force;

9 (3) education technology has the potential to improve the academic performance of
10 students, to prepare students for work in a technological society, and to assist with education reform;

11 (4) schools and publicly funded libraries lack adequate hardware, software, and training
12 for students, patrons, and educators in education technology;

13 (5) in order to implement effective education technology programs, teacher training and
14 active participation is essential;

1 donations made for the purpose of the fund.

2 (b) A project or grant application may be submitted to the department by a public school,
3 by a school district on behalf of a public school, or by a publicly funded library. The department
4 shall fund projects approved by the committee or award grants from the fund to a school district,
5 a public school, or a publicly funded library selected by the committee. Money in the fund that
6 consists of proceeds from the sale of general obligation bonds may not be awarded to a school
7 district, a public school, or a publicly funded library as a grant.

8 (c) A project or grant application submitted by a public school or by a school district
9 under (b) of this section must include

10 (1) educational goals and objectives;

11 (2) a comprehensive plan for using the education technology selected to achieve
12 the educational goals and objectives;

13 (3) a description of the relationship between the application and the board's
14 standards for student performance;

15 (4) required initial and ongoing training for teachers to effectively use the
16 education technology in the classroom;

17 (5) a description of the education technology proposed to be purchased;

18 (6) a proposed budget;

19 (7) a description of local efforts or resources that will be contributed;

20 (8) provisions for site preparation, equipment security, and required technical and
21 maintenance support; and

22 (9) criteria and methods that will be used to periodically evaluate and document
23 progress in achieving the educational goals and objectives.

24 (d) A project or grant application submitted by a publicly funded library under (b) of this
25 section must include

26 (1) library goals and objectives, including how the education technology will
27 improve services of the library or access to resource sharing;

28 (2) a comprehensive plan for using the education technology selected to achieve
29 library goals and objectives;

30 (3) required initial and ongoing training for library personnel to effectively use
31 the education technology;

- 1 (4) a description of the education technology proposed to be purchased;
2 (5) a proposed budget;
3 (6) a description of local efforts or resources that will be contributed;
4 (7) provisions for site preparation, equipment security, and required technical and
5 maintenance support; and
6 (8) whether the library participates in a resource sharing system.

7 (e) The board shall adopt regulations that allow a school district, a public school, or a
8 publicly funded library to obtain education technology under a permit or lease with the
9 department, for a project approved under AS 14.30.780(b).

10 (f) The department shall administer grants awarded under this section and shall include
11 a report on the projects receiving funds as part of the department's annual report.

12 Sec. 14.30.770. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE.
13 The commissioner of revenue is the treasurer of the fund and has the following powers and duties
14 under this section:

15 (1) to act as official custodian of the cash and investments belonging to the fund
16 by securing adequate and safe custodial facilities;

17 (2) to collect the principal and income from investments owned or acquired by
18 the state treasury and deposit the amounts in separate principal and income accounts for the fund;

19 (3) to invest and reinvest the assets of the fund as provided in this section and
20 as provided for the investment of retirement funds under AS 14.25.180;

21 (4) to exercise the powers of an owner with respect to the assets of the fund;

22 (5) to do all acts, whether or not expressly authorized, that the commissioner of
23 revenue considers necessary or proper in administering the assets of the fund;

24 (6) to maintain accounting records of the fund in accordance with investment
25 accounting principles and with distinction between the principal and income accounts of the fund;

26 (7) to engage an independent firm of certified public accountants to annually audit
27 the financial condition of the fund's investments and investment transactions;

28 (8) to enter into and enforce contracts or agreements considered necessary for the
29 investment purposes of the fund;

30 (9) to report to the department the condition and investment performance of the
31 fund.

1 Sec. 14.30.780. EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE. (a) The Education
2 Technology Committee is composed of the director of the division of libraries, archives, and
3 museums and six members appointed by the governor. The governor shall appoint

4 (1) four members who are educators with demonstrated education technology
5 experience;

6 (A) one from a district with 15,000 or more students;

7 (B) one from a district with at least 6,000 but less than 15,000 students;

8 (C) one from a district with at least 1,000 but less than 6,000 students; and

9 (D) one from a district with less than 1,000 students;

10 (2) one member with demonstrated education technology experience who is
11 employed by the University of Alaska; and

12 (3) one member with demonstrated education technology experience who is
13 employed by the department.

14 (b) The committee shall review project and grant applications and approve project
15 funding or award grants to a school district, a public school, or a publicly funded library from
16 the fund. In reviewing project or grant applications the committee shall consider the
17 completeness and consistency of the application in meeting the requirements of AS 14.30.760(c)
18 and (d). In funding projects or awarding grants to a school, district, or library, the committee
19 shall incorporate the applicant's plan for utilizing education technology. In funding projects or
20 awarding grants, the committee shall develop appropriate guidelines to ensure an equitable
21 distribution of project and grant funds. The committee shall recommend to the department the
22 best method for providing statewide teacher training and training to other instructional personnel
23 on the application and implementation of education technology as a part of the classroom
24 curriculum.

25 (c) Members of the committee serve without compensation but are entitled to receive per
26 diem and travel expenses authorized for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180.

27 Sec. 14.30.790. DEFINITIONS. In AS 14.30.750 - 14.30.790,

28 (1) "committee" means the Education Technology Committee;

29 (2) "district" has the meaning given in AS 14.17.250;

30 (3) "education technology" means instructional equipment and materials that are
31 used to enhance the quality and increase the efficiency of teaching and learning, including

1 hardware, software, and telecommunications;

2 (4) "fund" means the Alaska education technology fund;

3 (5) "publicly funded library" means a library eligible for a grant under
4 AS 14.56.310.

5 * Sec. 3. Before accepting project or grant applications under AS 14.30.760(b), enacted in sec. 2 of
6 this Act, the Department of Education shall conduct

7 (1) a survey of education technology resources in public schools and publicly funded
8 libraries in the state; and

9 (2) a statewide education technology grant and project writing seminar, available to all
10 public schools, school districts, and publicly funded libraries.

11 * Sec. 4. AS 14.30.760, 14.30.770, 14.30.780, and 14.30.790 are repealed December 31, 1998.

12 * Sec. 5. This Act takes effect July 1, 1992.