

## SENATE BILL NO. 176

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATORS PEARCE, Zharoff

Introduced: 3/6/91

Referred: HES and Finance

## A BILL

## FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to health education."

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

3 \* Section 1. AS 14.08.115 is amended to read:

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

10           (b) An advisory board shall advise the regional school board on all matters concerning  
11 schools in the community in which the advisory board is established. A health education  
12 curriculum advisory committee shall advise the regional school board on the health  
13 education curriculum at schools in the community in which the committee is established.

14 \* Sec. 2. AS 14.12.035 is amended to read:

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

6 \* Sec. 3. AS 14.16.050(a)(4) is amended to read:

7           (4) requirements relating to students and educational programs:

8           (A) AS 14.30.180 - 14.30.350 (relating to educational services for  
9 exceptional children);

10           (B) AS 14.30.360 - 14.30.380 [AS 14.30.360 - 14.30.370] (establishing  
11 health education program standards);

12           (C) AS 14.30.400 - 14.30.410 (relating to bilingual and bicultural  
13 education).

14 \* Sec. 4. AS 14.30.360 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

15           (c) The board shall develop curriculum guidelines for a health education program and  
16 shall make the program available to school districts. The board shall also make available  
17 information about other programs developed by other states upon request of a school district. 1

18 \* Sec. 5. AS 14.30 is amended by adding new sections to read:

19           Sec. 14.30.362. REQUIRED HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM. (a) Under guidelines  
20 developed by the board, each governing body shall implement instruction in comprehensive  
21 health education for grades kindergarten through 12. Instruction in comprehensive health  
22 education must include the following subjects: community health; consumer health; family health  
23 and human sexuality; reproductive health education; human growth and development; nutritional  
24 health; personal health and physical fitness; prevention and control of diseases and disorders,  
25 including acquired immune deficiency syndrome and other sexually transmitted diseases; safety  
26 and accident prevention; substance use and abuse, including alcohol and drug-related birth  
27 defects; dental health; and mental and emotional health, including suicide prevention.

28           (b) Each governing body shall establish a health education advisory board. Each  
29 governing body shall include in the health education program specific methods to encourage  
30 parents and other members of the community to participate in the development of health  
31 education curriculum components and materials.

1 (c) Each student shall take a health education examination after receiving instruction in  
2 the health education program.

3 Sec. 14.30.364. STAFF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. As part of their program for  
4 staff development, the department and governing bodies shall provide adequate funding and  
5 appropriate staff development activities for education personnel participating in health education  
6 programs. The staff development program must include age appropriate information about  
7 student pregnancy, student health issues, and local community health resources.

8 Sec. 14.30.366. EXEMPTION FROM INSTRUCTION. (a) Under policies and  
9 guidelines adopted by the governing body, public school principals shall develop a method of  
10 notifying parents of students in the relevant grades of the content of the instructional materials  
11 concerning reproductive health and of the parents' ability to exempt their child from this  
12 instruction. Notice shall be provided sufficiently in advance of a student's enrollment in courses  
13 using these instructional materials to allow parents and legal guardians the opportunity to preview  
14 the materials and exempt their children.

15 (b) A public school principal, upon receipt of a statement signed by a student's parent  
16 or legal guardian stating that participation by the student in the health education program  
17 conflicts with the family's beliefs, shall exempt that student from a portion or all of the units on  
18 reproductive health. A student who receives an exemption shall be tested under AS 14.30.362(c)  
19 in the same manner as a student who is not exempted. A governing body shall use procedures  
20 to provide that students exempted from the program by their parents or guardians are not embar-  
21 rassed by the exemption.

22 \* Sec. 6. AS 14.30.370 is amended to read:

23 Sec. 14.30.370. EVALUATION. Health education programs conducted under  
24 AS 14.30.360 - 14.30.380 [AS 14.30.360] shall be evaluated by the department in the same  
25 manner as other curriculum programs are evaluated, except that the evaluation **must** [SHALL]  
26 also include changes in the health status of the pupils as determined by physical and dental  
27 examinations conducted under AS 14.30.070 and 14.30.120.

28 \* Sec. 7. AS 14.30 is amended by adding a new section to article 4 to read:

29 Sec. 14.30.380. DEFINITIONS. In AS 14.30.360 - 14.30.380,

30 (1) "comprehensive health education" means health education in a school setting  
31 that is planned and carried out with the purpose of maintaining, reinforcing, or enhancing the

1 health, health related skills, and health attitudes and practices of children and youth that are  
2 conducive to their good health and that promote wellness, health maintenance, and disease  
3 prevention; it includes age appropriate, sequential instruction in health either as part of an  
4 existing course or as a special course;

5 (2) "reproductive health education" means instruction in human physiology,  
6 conception, prenatal care and development, fetal alcohol syndrome, childbirth, and postnatal care.

7 \* Sec. 8. TRANSITION. The State Board of Education shall develop a schedule that each local  
8 governing body shall follow in implementing the health education program required under AS 14.30.362,  
9 enacted in sec. 5 of this Act.