

SENATE BILL NO. 278
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR COTTEN

Introduced: 5/3/91
Referred: HES, Judiciary, Finance

A BILL
FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act imposing a maximum pupil-teacher ratio in public schools; and providing for an
2 effective date."

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

4 * **Section 1.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 Sec. 14.03.065. **MAXIMUM EFFECTIVE CLASS SIZE.** (a) In a public school class,
6 other than an art, typing, library, music, vocational-technical, or physical education class, the ratio
7 of pupils to a teacher may not exceed 15 to 1 in a class in grades K - 3, 20 to 1 in a class in
8 grades 4 - 6, and 25 to 1 in a class in grades 7 - 12.

9 (b) The pupil-teacher ratio required under this section does not apply during the final
10 eight weeks of each school year.

11 (c) A district shall annually report to the department the district's ratio of pupils to a
12 teacher in each class required to meet the ratio set out in (a) of this section. The ratio reported
13 shall be the average of the daily ratio taken over the same period in October used to determine
14 average daily membership under AS 14.17.160.

1 (d) In this section, "teacher" means a person who is certified under AS 14.20.020 and
2 who is an actual classroom teacher in a regular instructional program.

3 * Sec. 2. **TRANSITION.** Before July 1, 1996, notwithstanding AS 14.03.065, enacted in sec. 1 of
4 this Act, the ratio of pupils to a teacher in a class may be higher than the ratio required under
5 AS 14.03.065, enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, if the actual number of pupils in the present class has
6 declined by two or more when compared to pupils in the same class and grade in the previous school
7 year.

8 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect July 1, 1991.