

HOUSE BILL NO. 106

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES BROWN, Ulmer, Davidson, Bunde, B.Davis, Carney, Nordlund, Brice, Nicholia, Davies, Willis

Introduced: 1/29/93

Referred: Health, Education & Social Services, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act establishing the Alaska education technology program; and providing for
2 an 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
6 changing technology;

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

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

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

14 (5) in order to implement effective education technology programs, teacher

1 training and active participation is essential;

2 (6) an equitable distribution of education technology is necessary to ensure that
3 all public school students in the state receive comparable educational opportunities.

4 (b) It is the purpose of this Act to establish the Alaska education technology program,
5 to provide teachers, library staff, and other instructional personnel with training in how to
6 apply education technology in meeting instructional objectives, and to provide the necessary
7 equipment and materials to effectively utilize education technology within the adopted
8 curricula throughout the rural and urban schools and in publicly funded libraries of this state.

9 * Sec. 2. AS 14.03.120(e) is amended to read:

10 (e) A district shall, by October 31 of each year, provide to the state board, and
11 make available to the public, a report on the performance of each public school and
12 public school students in the district. The report must be entitled "School District
13 Report Card To The Public" and must be prepared on a form prescribed by the
14 department. The report must include

15 (1) the percent of district students in the top and bottom quarter of
16 standardized national achievement examinations; results under this paragraph shall be
17 disclosed in a manner that does not reveal the individual identities of students;

18 (2) the percent of students who are not promoted to the next grade;

19 (3) student, parent, and community member comments on the school's
20 performance;

21 (4) the annual percent change in enrollment and the percent of
22 enrollment change due to student transfers into and out of the district;

23 (5) attendance, retention, and graduation rates;

24 (6) the ways in which meaningful parent involvement in school
25 performance was achieved;

26 (7) a summary and evaluation of the environmental education
27 curriculum described in AS 14.30.380;

28 (8) uses of education technology by classroom teachers that have
29 improved student performance and the results of periodic evaluations of education
30 technology acquired under AS 14.30.810;

31 (9) other indicators of school performance required by the state board;

1 and
2 (10) [(9)] other indicators of school performance selected by the
3 district.

4 * Sec. 3. AS 14.30 is amended by adding new sections to read:

5 ARTICLE 12. ALASKA EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY.

6 Sec. 14.30.800. ALASKA EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM. (a)
7 The Alaska education technology program is established in the department. The
8 program must include

9 (1) technical assistance to a district, a public school, or a publicly
10 funded library for the purpose of planning for, purchasing, using, and evaluating results
11 of education technology;

12 (2) training for employees of a district, public school, or publicly
13 funded library in the use of education technology in the classroom or library; and

14 (3) a plan for coordinating and expanding existing networks and
15 investigating the development of new networks for educational uses, including the
16 University of Alaska computer network, Star Schools, Livenet, public television, rural
17 Alaska television, and library sharing systems; the plan required under this paragraph
18 shall be developed in consultation with the Department of Administration and must be
19 consistent with AS 44.21.315(c).

20 (b) In administering the program required under this section, the department
21 may pool grant money or other money available from each district or publicly funded
22 library in order to make a bulk purchase of education technology or to provide
23 necessary training.

24 Sec. 14.30.810. ALASKA EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY FUND
25 ESTABLISHED. (a) The Alaska education technology fund is established in the
26 department. The purpose of the fund is to (1) enhance the quality and equity of
27 education at public elementary and secondary schools by providing a percentage of the
28 project or grant money needed to purchase, install, and maintain education technology
29 in classrooms; (2) provide training in the use of education technology to help students
30 achieve student performance standards; (3) provide access to networks for public
31 schools and publicly funded libraries through the University of Alaska computer

1 network, the Department of Administration computer network, or other means
2 consistent with the program developed under AS 14.30.800 and AS 44.21.315(c); and
3 (4) provide a percentage of the cost of education technology, including computer and
4 resource sharing systems, to publicly funded libraries. Money in the fund may be used
5 to provide grants or may be expended by the department for projects that further the
6 purposes described in this subsection. The fund consists of legislative appropriations
7 to the fund and public or private donations made for the purpose of the fund.

8 (b) A project or grant application may be submitted to the department by a
9 school district on behalf of a public school, or by a publicly funded library. The
10 department shall fund projects approved by the committee or award grants from the
11 fund to a school district for a public school, or to a publicly funded library selected
12 by the committee. Money in the fund that consists of proceeds from the sale of
13 general obligation bonds may not be awarded to a school district, a public school, or
14 a publicly funded library as a grant.

15 (c) As a condition of funding a project or awarding a grant, the department
16 shall require the school district or publicly funded library to pay that percentage of the
17 cost of the project or grant required under AS 14.30.820.

18 (d) A project or grant application submitted by a school district under (b) of
19 this section must include

20 (1) educational goals and objectives;

21 (2) the sum of money to be provided by the department and by the
22 school district;

23 (3) a comprehensive plan for using the education technology selected
24 to achieve the educational goals and objectives;

25 (4) a description of the relationship between the application and the
26 district's goals for student performance outlined in the report submitted under
27 AS 14.03.120;

28 (5) required initial and ongoing training for teachers to effectively use
29 the education technology in the classroom;

30 (6) a description of the education technology proposed to be purchased;

31 (7) a proposed budget;

- 1 (8) a description of local efforts or resources that will be contributed;
2 (9) provisions for site preparation, equipment security, and required
3 technical and maintenance support;
4 (10) criteria and methods that will be used to periodically evaluate and
5 document progress in achieving the educational goals and objectives;
6 (11) a description of local partnerships that are or will be involved in
7 the planning, implementation, or evaluation of the project; and
8 (12) documentation of the process used by the public school to develop
9 the plan.
- 10 (e) A project or grant application submitted by a publicly funded library under
11 (b) of this section must include
- 12 (1) library goals and objectives, including how the education technology
13 will improve services of the library or access to resource sharing;
14 (2) the sum of money to be provided by the department and by the
15 publicly funded library;
16 (3) a comprehensive plan for using the education technology selected
17 to achieve library goals and objectives;
18 (4) required initial and ongoing training for library personnel to
19 effectively use the education technology;
20 (5) a description of the education technology proposed to be purchased;
21 (6) a proposed budget;
22 (7) a description of local efforts or resources that will be contributed;
23 (8) provisions for site preparation, equipment security, and required
24 technical and maintenance support; and
25 (9) whether the library participates in a resource sharing system;
26 (10) documentation of the process used by the library to develop the
27 plan.
- 28 (f) The board shall adopt regulations that allow a school district, a public
29 school, or a publicly funded library to obtain education technology under a permit or
30 lease with the department, for a project approved under AS 14.30.840(b).
- 31 (g) The department shall administer grants awarded under this section and shall

1 include a report on the projects receiving funds as part of the department's annual
2 report.

3 Sec. 14.30.820. SCHOOL DISTRICT REQUIRED PARTICIPATION IN
4 GRANT PROGRAM. (a) In order to receive a grant under this chapter, a school
5 district must provide a percentage share of the project cost, as determined under (b)
6 or (c) of this section.

7 (b) The required participating share for a city or borough school district is
8 based on the district's full value per ADM, which is calculated by dividing the full and
9 true value of the taxable real and personal property in the district, calculated as
10 described in AS 14.17.025(a)(1), by the district average daily membership, for the
11 same fiscal year for which the valuation was made. The district's full value per ADM
12 determines the district's required participating share, as follows:

13	Full Value Per ADM	District Participating Share
14	\$1 - \$100,000	5 percent
15	100,001 - 200,000	30 percent
16	200,001 - 600,000	45 percent
17	over 600,000	55 percent.

18 (c) The required participating share for a regional educational attendance area
19 is 3.8 percent. The required share may be satisfied by federal or local money, locally
20 contributed labor, material, or equipment, or money from other sources. If a regional
21 educational attendance area can demonstrate in writing that it is unable to provide the
22 required participating share, or that the requirement to provide a participating share
23 will jeopardize receipt of federal assistance, the commissioner may waive all or a
24 portion of the required participating share.

25 (d) Funding under AS 14.11 may not be used as a source of the required
26 participating share under (b) or (c) of this section.

27 Sec. 14.30.830. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSIONER OF
28 REVENUE. The commissioner of revenue is the treasurer of the fund and has the
29 following powers and duties under this section:

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

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

4 (3) to invest and reinvest the assets of the fund as provided in this
5 section and as provided for the investment of funds under AS 14.25.071;

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

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

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

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

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

19 (9) to report to the department the condition and investment
20 performance of the fund.

21 Sec. 14.30.840. EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE. (a) The
22 Education Technology Committee is composed of the director of the division of
23 libraries, archives, and museums and seven members appointed by the governor. The
24 governor shall appoint

25 (1) four members who are educators with demonstrated education
26 technology experience;

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

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

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

- 1 (D) one from a district with less than 1,000 students;
2 (2) one member with demonstrated education technology experience
3 who is employed by the University of Alaska;
4 (3) one member with demonstrated education technology experience
5 who is employed by the department; and
6 (4) one member with expertise in telecommunications employed by the
7 Department of Administration.

8 (b) The committee shall review project and grant applications and approve
9 project funding or award grants to a school district or a publicly funded library from
10 the fund. In reviewing project or grant applications the committee shall consider the
11 completeness and consistency of the application in meeting the requirements of
12 AS 14.30.810(d) and (e). In funding projects or awarding grants to a district or
13 library, the committee shall incorporate the applicant's plan for utilizing education
14 technology. In funding projects or awarding grants, the committee shall develop
15 appropriate guidelines to ensure an equitable distribution of project and grant funds
16 over a five-year period. The committee shall recommend to the department the best
17 method for providing statewide teacher training and training to other instructional
18 personnel on the application and implementation of education technology as a part of
19 the classroom curriculum.

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

23 Sec. 14.30.900. DEFINITIONS. In AS 14.30.800 - 14.30.900.

24 (1) "average daily membership" has the meaning given in
25 AS 14.17.250;

26 (2) "committee" means the Education Technology Committee;

27 (3) "district" has the meaning given in AS 14.17.250;

28 (4) "education technology" means instructional equipment and materials
29 that are used to enhance the quality and effectiveness of teaching and learning,
30 including hardware, software, and telecommunications;

31 (5) "fund" means the Alaska education technology fund;

1 (6) "publicly funded library" means a library eligible for a grant under
2 AS 14.56.310.

3 * Sec. 4. Notwithstanding AS 14.30.820(b) and (c), enacted in sec. 3 of this Act, the
4 required participating share

5 (1) for a city or borough school district with a full value per average daily
6 membership of more than \$100,000 is 15 percent less than required under AS 14.30.820(b)
7 in the school year beginning in 1993, 10 percent less than required under AS 14.30.820(b) in
8 the school year beginning in 1994, and five percent less than required under AS 14.30.820(b)
9 in the school year beginning in 1995; and

10 (2) does not apply in a regional educational attendance area for the school year
11 beginning in 1993; for the school year beginning in 1994, the required participation is one
12 percent and for the school year beginning in 1995, the required participation is 2.4 percent.

13 * Sec. 5. Before accepting project or grant applications under AS 14.30.810(b), enacted in
14 sec. 3 of this Act, the Department of Education shall conduct

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

17 (2) statewide education technology planning and grant writing seminars,
18 available to all public schools, school districts, and publicly funded libraries.

19 * Sec. 6. AS 14.03.120(e)(8); AS 14.30.810, 14.30.820, 14.30.830, 14.30.840, and
20 14.30.900 are repealed June 30, 2000.

21 * Sec. 7. This Act takes effect July 1, 1993.