

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 106(FIN)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/18/94
Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES BROWN, Ulmer, Davidson, Bunde, B.Davis, Carney, Nordlund, Brice, Nicholia, Davies, Willis

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 (7) equal access to information in libraries is important to all citizens of the
5 state.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 (6) the ways in which meaningful parent involvement in school
27 performance was achieved;

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

30 (8) uses of education technology by classroom teachers that have
31 improved student performance and the results of periodic evaluations of education

1 technology acquired under AS 14.30.810:
2 (9) other indicators of school performance required by the state board;
3 and
4 (10) [(9)] other indicators of school performance selected by the
5 district.

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

7 ARTICLE 12. ALASKA EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY.

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

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

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

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

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

26 Sec. 14.30.810. ALASKA EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY FUND
27 ESTABLISHED. (a) The Alaska education technology fund is established in the
28 department. The purpose of the fund is to (1) enhance the quality and equity of
29 education at public elementary and secondary schools by providing a percentage of the
30 project or grant money needed to purchase, install, and maintain education technology
31 in classrooms; (2) provide training in the use of education technology to help students

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

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

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

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

22 (1) educational goals and objectives;

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

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

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

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

- 1 (6) a description of the education technology proposed to be purchased;
2 (7) a proposed budget;
3 (8) a description of local efforts or resources that will be contributed;
4 (9) provisions for site preparation, equipment security, and required
5 technical and maintenance support;
6 (10) criteria and methods that will be used to periodically evaluate and
7 document progress in achieving the educational goals and objectives;
8 (11) a description of local partnerships that are or will be involved in
9 the planning, implementation, or evaluation of the project; and
10 (12) documentation of the process used by the public school to develop
11 the plan.

12 (e) A project or grant application submitted by a publicly funded library under
13 (b) of this section must include

- 14 (1) library goals and objectives, including how the education technology
15 will improve services of the library or access to resource sharing;
16 (2) the sum of money to be provided by the department and by the
17 publicly funded library;
18 (3) a comprehensive plan for using the education technology selected
19 to achieve library goals and objectives;
20 (4) required initial and ongoing training for library personnel to
21 effectively use the education technology;
22 (5) a description of the education technology proposed to be purchased;
23 (6) a proposed budget;
24 (7) a description of local efforts or resources that will be contributed;
25 (8) provisions for site preparation, equipment security, and required
26 technical and maintenance support; and
27 (9) whether the library participates in a resource sharing system;
28 (10) documentation of the process used by the library to develop the
29 plan.

30 (f) The board shall adopt regulations that allow a school district, a public
31 school, or a publicly funded library to obtain education technology under a permit or

1 lease with the department, for a project approved under AS 14.30.840(b).

2 (g) The department shall administer grants awarded under this section and shall
3 include a report on the projects receiving funds as part of the department's annual
4 report.

5 Sec. 14.30.820. REQUIRED PARTICIPATION IN GRANT PROGRAM. (a)
6 In order to receive a grant or have a project funded under this chapter, a district or
7 publicly funded library must provide a percentage share of the project cost, as
8 determined under (b) of this section.

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

16	Full Value Per ADM	Participating Share
17	\$0 - \$100,000	5 percent
18	100,001 - 300,000	30 percent
19	300,001 - 600,000	40 percent
20	over 600,000	50 percent.

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

29 (d) State funds provided under AS 14.11 may not be used as a source of the
30 required participating share under (b) or (c) of this section.

31 Sec. 14.30.830. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSIONER OF

1 REVENUE. The commissioner of revenue is the treasurer of the fund and has the
2 following powers and duties under this section:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 (9) to report to the department the condition and investment
24 performance of the fund.

25 Sec. 14.30.840. EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE. (a) The
26 Education Technology Committee is composed of the director of the division of
27 libraries, archives, and museums and seven members appointed by the governor. The
28 governor shall appoint

29 (1) four members who are educators with demonstrated education
30 technology experience;

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

- 1 (B) one from a district with at least 6,000 but less than 15,000
2 students;
3 (C) one from a district with at least 1,000 but less than 6,000
4 students; and
5 (D) one from a district with less than 1,000 students;
6 (2) one member with demonstrated education technology experience
7 who is employed by the University of Alaska;
8 (3) one member with demonstrated education technology experience
9 who is employed by the department; and
10 (4) one member with expertise in telecommunications employed by the
11 Department of Administration.

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

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

27 Sec. 14.30.900. DEFINITIONS. In AS 14.30.800 - 14.30.900,

- 28 (1) "average daily membership" has the meaning given in
29 AS 14.17.250;
30 (2) "committee" means the Education Technology Committee;
31 (3) "district" has the meaning given in AS 14.17.250;

1 (4) "education technology" means instructional equipment and materials
2 that are used to enhance the quality and effectiveness of teaching and learning, and to
3 enhance access to information in libraries, including hardware, software, and
4 telecommunications;

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

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

8 * Sec. 4. Before accepting project or grant applications under AS 14.30.810(b), enacted in
9 sec. 3 of this Act, the Department of Education shall conduct

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

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

14 * Sec. 5. AS 14.03.120(e)(8); AS 14.30.810, 14.30.820, 14.30.830, 14.30.840, and
15 14.30.900 are repealed June 30, 2000.

16 * Sec. 6. This Act takes effect July 1, 1994.