

SENATE BILL NO. 314

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR ELLIS

Introduced: 2/14/94
Referred: STA, HES, JUD, FIN

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to public school health personal safety education."

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

3 * Section 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be known as the "Healthy Students Act."

4 * Sec. 2. PURPOSE. The purpose of this Act is to foster the development and
5 dissemination of educational activities and materials that will assist students, teachers,
6 administrators, and parents in the perception, appreciation, and understanding of health
7 principles and problems, and adoption of responsible behavior.

8 * Sec. 3. AS 14.08.115 is amended to read:

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

1 powers and duties.

2 (b) An advisory board shall advise the regional school board on all matters
3 concerning schools in the community in which the advisory board is established. A
4 health education curriculum advisory committee shall advise the regional school
5 board on the health education curriculum at schools in the community in which
6 the committee is established.

7 * Sec. 4. AS 14.12.035 is amended to read:

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

13 * Sec. 5. AS 14.30.360 is amended to read:

14 Sec. 14.30.360. CURRICULUM. (a) Each district in the state public school
15 system shall [BE ENCOURAGED TO] initiate and conduct a program in
16 comprehensive health education for kindergarten through grade 12. The program
17 must [SHOULD] include

18 (1) age appropriate instruction in physical health and personal safety
19 including

20 (A) alcohol, tobacco, and substance [DRUG] abuse and fetal
21 alcohol syndrome education;

22 (B) first aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR);

23 (C) human growth and development, including human
24 sexuality, reproductive health, pregnancy prevention, prevention and
25 control of diseases, including acquired immune deficiency syndrome and
26 other sexually transmitted diseases;

27 (D) mental and emotional health, including suicide
28 prevention;

29 (E) [, EARLY] cancer prevention and early detection,
30 nutrition, dental health, family health, environmental health;

31 (F) [,] the identification and prevention of child abuse, child

- 1 abduction, neglect, and sexual abuse, and domestic violence; [,] and
2 (G) appropriate use of health services;
3 (2) training, support groups, and pertinent literature designed to
4 assist parents and other members of the community to participate in health and
5 personal safety education;
6 (3) a district curriculum and curriculum materials adopted in
7 conjunction with the district health education curriculum advisory committee; and
8 (4) a method of notifying parents of students of the content of
9 instructional materials used in the human growth and development program and
10 of the parents' option to exempt their child from human growth and development
11 instruction; a district shall use procedures to provide that students exempted from
12 the program are not embarrassed by the exemption.

13 (b) The state board shall establish guidelines for a comprehensive health and
14 personal safety education program. Personal safety guidelines shall be developed in
15 consultation with the Department of Health and Social Services [COUNCIL ON
16 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT]. Upon request, the Department
17 of Education, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Health and Social
18 Services, and the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault shall provide
19 technical assistance to school districts in the development of personal safety curricula.
20 A school health and personal safety education specialist position shall be established
21 and funded in the department to coordinate the program statewide. Adequate funds
22 to enable curriculum and resource development, adequate consultation to school
23 districts, and a program of [TEACHER] training and planned periodic staff
24 development for administrators and teachers in health and personal safety education
25 shall be provided.

26 * Sec. 6. AS 14.30.360 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

- 27 (c) In this section,
28 (1) "family health" includes
29 (A) an understanding of the physical, mental, emotional, social,
30 economic, and psychological aspects of close personal relationships and an
31 understanding of the physiological, psychological, and cultural foundations of

1 human development;

2 (B) the development of responsible personal values and
3 behavior and the establishing of a strong family life for students in the future,
4 with emphasis on the responsibilities of parenting;

5 (C) knowledge of the law relating to the sexual conduct of
6 minors and sexual abuse of minors, including criminal sexual conduct;

7 (2) "health and personal safety education" includes health education in
8 a school setting that is planned and carried out with the purpose of maintaining,
9 reinforcing, or enhancing the health, health-related skills, and health attitudes and
10 practices of children and youth that are conducive to their good health and that
11 promote wellness, health maintenance, and disease prevention; it includes age-
12 appropriate, sequential instruction in health either as part of an existing course or as
13 a special course:

14 (3) "pregnancy prevention" includes

15 (A) skills to enable students to resist peer pressure and to
16 abstain from sexual activity;

17 (B) methods of contraception, and the risks and benefits of each
18 method;

19 (C) knowledge of sexually transmitted disease, including
20 acquired immune deficiency syndrome;

21 (4) "reproductive health" includes human physiology, conception,
22 prenatal care and development, fetal alcohol syndrome, childbirth, postnatal care,
23 contraception, and prevention of disease.

24 * Sec. 7. TRANSITION. Each district shall begin development of the comprehensive
25 health education curriculum required by this Act by July 1, 1994, and shall have in place a
26 program of comprehensive health education required by this Act by August 1, 1996.