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() USE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)
Date Referred: April 22, 1991

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Finance

Date of Committee Action: 4/14/91

The HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES Committee considered:

SB 132

SENATE BILL NO. 132

LENGTH OF SCHOOL TERM

"An Act relating to the school term."

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- be replaced with _____ the same title
 a new title
- have attached amendments(s)
 do pass
 do not pass
 no recommendations
 individual recommendations
 additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): (Dept) _____

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date) _____

fiscal impact _____

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note _____

zero fiscal note(s) D.O.E. 2/21/91

| SIGNING DO PASS | DP | OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS | DNP | NR | AM |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|----|
| <i>[Signature]</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | | | |
| <i>Mary Miller</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <i>Cheri Davis</i> | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| <i>John C. Soyales</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <i>Betty Davis</i> | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| | | <i>[Signature]</i> | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
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[Signature]
 CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE

Senate Hess - 3/12

THE NEXT ORDER OF BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE COMMITTEE MEMBERS WAS SB 132, RELATING TO THE LENGTH OF THE SCHOOL TERM. SANDY NUSBAUM, LEGISLATIVE STAFF TO SENATOR PAUL FISCHER, READ A STATEMENT INTO THE RECORD:

"AS YOU ARE AWARE, THIS SUBJECT HAS BEEN BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE AND JUST LAST SESSION. IT PASSED BOTH BODIES OF THE LEGISLATURE, HOWEVER, IT WAS VETOED BY FORMER GOVERNOR COWPER. I BELIEVE A COPY OF HIS VETO MESSAGE IS PROVIDED FOR YOUR COMMITTEE FILES. SENATE BILL 132 IS IDENTICAL TO THE VERSION THAT WAS VETOED.

"CERTAIN CHILDREN IN THE STATE PRESENTLY RECEIVE LESS THAN THE STANDARD 180 DAYS OF INSTRUCTION THAT IS MANDATED BY LAW. SOME OF THESE ABSENCES ARE ATTRIBUTED TO SUBSISTENCE LIFESTYLES OF PARENTS DURING HUNTING AND FISHING PERIODS, AS WELL AS COMMERCIAL FISHING OPENINGS. IN TURN, CHILDREN LOSE VALUABLE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND SCHOOLS JUST INDICATE THE CHILDREN AS BEING ABSENT. THIS LEGISLATION SIMPLY GIVES A LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD THE DISCRETION TO ADJUST THE SCHOOL DAY TO ACCOMMODATE THE DIFFERENT LIFESTYLE NEEDS AND ALLOWS FOR OTHER SITUATIONS THAT MIGHT CAUSE A CLOSURE OF A SCHOOL.

"CURRENT LAW PRESENTLY ALLOWS FOR ADJUSTMENTS OF THE SCHOOL TERM FOR CORRECTION OF ASBESTOS PROBLEMS. OTHER CONDITIONS THAT MAY OCCUR TO FORCE A CLOSURE WOULD BE FROZEN PIPES, FLOODING, OR VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS AS WAS EXPERIENCED ON THE KENAI PENINSULA JUST LAST YEAR.

~~THE COMMISSIONER CURRENTLY HAS THE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE~~ EMERGENCY CLOSURE DAYS BUT DOES NOT PRESENTLY HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO AUTHORIZE DISTRICTS TO MAKE UP MISSED DAYS BY EXTENDING THE NUMBER OF HOURS IN A SCHOOL DAY. ADDITIONALLY, THE LEGISLATION ADDS LANGUAGE THAT STATES THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD MUST EXHAUST THAT WOULD HAVE ALLOWED

RETENTION OF 180 DAY SCHOOL TERM."

MS. NUSBAUM NOTED THAT KENAI DID EXTEND THE SCHOOL DAY A COUPLE OF TIMES LAST YEAR TO ACCOMMODATE THE PROBLEMS THEY HAD WHEN THEY HAD TO CLOSE BECAUSE OF THE VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS. SHE INDICATED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WAS IN SUPPORT OF THE LEGISLATION LAST YEAR AND THERE HASN'T BEEN AN INDICATION WHETHER THEY SUPPORT IT PRESENTLY.

CHAIRMAN STURGULEWSKI NOTED THERE WAS A ZERO FISCAL NOTE.

THERE BEING NO PUBLIC TESTIMONY, CHAIRMAN STURGULEWSKI CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING. SENATOR COTTEN MOVED AND ASKED UNANIMOUS CONSENT THAT SB 132 BE PASSED OUT OF THE SENATE HESS COMMITTEE. HEARING NO OBJECTION, IT WAS SO ORDERED.

FISCAL NOTE

No. 1

Version: SB 132

(S) Publish Date: 3/13/91

STATE OF ALASKA
1991 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: _____ Department Affected: Education
 Title: School Term BRU: K-12 Support
 Component: Foundation

Sponsor: Fischer
 Requestor: Fischer COMPONENT SERIAL NO.

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Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

| OPERATING | FY 92 | FY 93 | FY 94 | FY 95 | FY 96 | FY 97 |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | | | |
| TRAVEL | | | | | | |
| CONTRACTUAL | | | | | | |
| SUPPLIES | | | | | | |
| EQUIPMENT | | | | | | |
| LAND & STRUCTURES | | | | | | |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS | | | | | | |
| MISCELLANEOUS | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |

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|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CAPITAL | | | | | | |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

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|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| REVENUE | | | | | | |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| GENERAL FUND | | | | | | |
| FEDERAL FUNDS | | | | | | |
| OTHER | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |

POSITIONS:

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| FULL-TIME | | | | | | |
| PART-TIME | | | | | | |
| TEMPORARY | | | | | | |

Estimate of current year impact: _____

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

Prepared By: Mary Hakala Phone: 465-2800
 Division: Commissioner's Office Date: 2/21/91
 Approved by Commissioner: Steve Hole, Acting Commissioner
 Agency: Education Date: 2/21/91

Distribution (by preparer): Legislative Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, & Impacted Agency(ies).