

**HB**

**167**

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
1995 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 167

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Affected: Education

Title: Alaska Native Language and Culture Programs

BRU: Education Program Support

Sponsor: Representative Nicholia

Component: Basic Education and Instruction

Requester: Representative Nicholia

Improvement

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 171

**Expenditures/Revenues:**

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01
PERSONAL SERVICES	87.4	87.4	87.4	87.4	87.4	87.4
TRAVEL	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
CONTRACTUAL	257.3	257.3	257.3	257.3	257.3	257.3
SUPPLIES	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
EQUIPMENT	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>360.7</b>	<b>360.7</b>	<b>360.7</b>	<b>360.7</b>	<b>360.7</b>	<b>360.7</b>

<b>CAPITAL</b>						
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<b>REVENUE FUND SOURCE:</b>						
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**FUNDING:**

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	360.7	360.7	360.7	360.7	360.7	360.7
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>360.7</b>	<b>360.7</b>	<b>360.7</b>	<b>360.7</b>	<b>360.7</b>	<b>360.7</b>

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME	1					
PART-TIME	1					
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current year (FY95) impact: \$ 0.0

**ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)**

House Bill 167 establishes an Alaska Native language and culture education program in a school that enrolls Native children. Enrollment in this program is voluntary. The legislation directs the department to provide technical assistance to school districts, schools, and post-secondary institutions for training in teaching methods, curriculum development, testing and testing mechanisms, and the development of materials for the Native education programs. Please see attached sheet for analysis.

Prepared by: Barbara Thomson

Phone: 465-8727

Division: Education Program Support

Date: March 21, 1995

Approved by Commissioner: \_\_\_\_\_

*Shirley Holloway*  
Shirley Holloway, Ph.D.

Agency: Education

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Personal Services:**

1 Full-time Education Specialist II, Range 21: \$70.7

Primary Responsibilities:

Provide technical assistance to school districts, schools, and post-secondary institutions for training Alaska Native education teachers and teachers' aides.

Facilitate in the development of curriculum, testing and testing mechanisms, and materials for Alaska Native education programs.

Administer contracts that provide workshops, sessions, and/or on-site training to assist school districts, schools, and post-secondary institutions in delivering an Alaska Native language and culture education program.

1 Half-time Administrative Clerk II, Range 3 (.5): \$16.7

Primary Responsibilities:

Clerical support for Education Specialist in working with school districts, schools, post-secondary institutions to develop an Alaska Native language and culture education program.

**Travel:**

Department of Education technical assistance, facilitating training: \$10.0

**Contractual:**

Professional service contracts: Contractual services to provide technical assistance, workshops, sessions, and/or on-site training with school districts, schools, and post-secondary institutions: \$250.0

Phone, postage, photocopying: \$5.3

Audioconferencing with school districts, schools, and post-secondary institutions: \$2.0

**Supplies:**

Supplies associated with positions: \$ 0.5

**Equipment:**

Equipment associated with positions: \$ 5.5

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
1995 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 167

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected: EDUCATION  
 Title: An Act relating to educational programs for BRU: Executive Administration  
Alaska Native languages, culture and history. Component: Teacher Certification

Sponsor: Representative Nicholia  
 Requester: Representative Nicholia COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 1240

**Expenditures/Revenues:** (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY96	FY97	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL	2.0					
CONTRACTUAL	10.0					
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGES IN REVENUES						
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**FUNDING:** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	12.0					
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of current year (FY95) cost: \$

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

HB167 would require the Department of Education to revise regulations and promulgate new regulations to accommodate the various categories under the recognized expert for the purpose of teacher certification. In addition, the legislation would require modifications to the existing computer system to track the certificates issued under the new category. New forms would need to be developed and printed. Additional costs include working with Alaska's institutions of higher education in developing approved teacher education programs to meet the requirements in the legislation.

Prepared by: Christine Niemi Phone: 465-2857  
 Division: Administrative Services Date: 3/20/95  
 Approved by Commissioner: Shirley Holloway Date: 3/20/95  
 Agency: Department of Education

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Resources  
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House District 36

Alatna  
Alcan  
Allakaket  
Aniak  
Anvik  
Arctic Village  
Beaver  
Bettles  
Birch Creek  
Canyon Village  
Central  
Chalkyitsik  
Chicken  
Chistochina  
Chitina  
Chumthlak  
Circle  
Circle Hot Springs  
Coldfoot  
Copper Center  
Copperville  
Crooked Creek  
Dot Lake  
Dry Creek  
Eagle  
Eagle Village  
Evansville  
Fort Yukon  
Gakona  
Gatena  
Grayling  
Gulkana  
Healy Lake  
Holy Cross  
Hughes  
Huslia  
Kaktog  
Koyukuk  
Lime Village  
Livengood  
Lake Minchumina  
Lower Kalskag  
Manley  
Marshall  
McCarthy  
McGrath  
Meufra  
Mentasta  
Minto  
Nabesna  
Nenana  
Nikolai  
Northway  
Nulato  
Pilot Station  
Rampart  
Red Devil  
Ruby  
Russian Mission  
Shageluk  
Slana  
Sleetmute  
Stevens Village  
Stony River  
Takatna  
Tanacross  
Tanana  
Telida  
Tetlin  
Tok  
Tulukak  
Tyonek  
Upper Kalskag  
Venetie  
Wiseman

## Representative Irene K. Nicholia

State Capitol • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Phone: 465-4527 FAX: 465-2294

### House Bill 167

#### SPONSOR STATEMENT

House Bill 167 would move the Alaskan education system into the forefront of the nation's efforts to recognize diversity, to promote and preserve cultural heritage, and to insure access to the rich legacy of our American ancestors to all students. A comprehensive program for Alaska Native language and culture, such as is offered in HB 167, will encourage those educators and members of the concerned public, both Native and non-Native, to expand curricular offerings in ways that are directly relevant to their students. It will also greatly add to the vision of America as both a diverse and integrated nation.

This Bill *does not* mandate that school districts create specific programs for Native language and culture. Rather, it allows and authorizes districts to undertake the delicate and complicated tasks required to create concrete and effective cross-cultural curricula. Under the guidelines established by HB 167, districts are encouraged to *network* with other nonsectarian institutions to gain curricular depth in Alaska Native language and culture. Districts are also directed to establish and maintain effective, individualized communication with parents to forge *home-school* partnerships for Alaska Native curricular innovation. Part of this directive is the establishment of a parent committee similar to those made available in Chicago schools during their extensive restructuring. HB 167 also encourages districts to include children who are not Alaska Native in the new courses and activities when resources are available.

Reflecting the highly progressive and proactive policies of the State of Minnesota, this Bill also broadens the opportunities districts have to find and hire qualified instructors for their Alaska Native language and culture programs. This legislation demonstrates that the State of Alaska is concerned with creating richness and diversity within its school curricula, and

also that the State actively seeks to recognize and utilize the strengths of all of its people for the betterment of its children. Passage of House Bill 167 would signal the nation and the world that Alaska is ready to meet the goals of America 2000, and the global goals of inclusion, diversity, and cultural preservation.

I would strongly urge your support for House Bill 167.

House District 36

Alatna

Alvan

Alakaket

Aniak

Anvik

Arctic Village

Beaver

Bettles

Birch Creek

Canyon Village

Central

Chalkyitsik

Chicken

Chistochina

Chitina

Chuathbaluk

Circle

Circle Hot Springs

Coldfoot

Copper Center

Copperville

Cracked Creek

Dot Lake

Dry Creek

Eagle

Eagle Village

Evansville

Fort Yukon

Gakona

Galena

Grayling

Gulkana

Healy Lake

Holy Cross

Hughes

Huslia

Kaitag

Koyukuk

Lime Village

Livengood

Lake Minchumina

Lower Kalskag

Manley

Marshall

McCarthy

McGrath

Melbra

Mentasta

Minto

Nabesna

Nenana

Nikolai

Northway

Nulato

Pilot Station

Rampart

Red Devil

Ruby

Russian Mission

Shageluk

Slana

Sleetmite

Stevens Village

Stony River

Takotna

Tanacross

Tanana

Telida

Tetlin

Tok

Tuluksak

Tyonek

Upper Kalskag

Venetie

Wiseman

# Representative Irene K. Nicholia

State Capitol • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Phone: 465-4527 FAX: 465-2294



Resources  
Community and Regional Affairs  
International Trade and Tourism

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Ivan Ivan, Co-Chairman  
and Representative Alan Austerman, Co-Chairman  
House Community and Regional Affairs Committee

FROM: Representative Irene Nicholia *Irene*

DATE: February 28, 1995

RE: Scheduling of House Bill 167

I would like to request a hearing of HB 167, "An Act relating to educational programs for Alaska Native languages, culture, and history, to teachers of Alaska Native languages and culture and history, and to Alaska Native Teachers," in the House Community and Regional Affairs Committee.

Attached please find a copy of the Sponsor statement and Sectional analysis for this bill.

Thank you for your timely consideration of HB 167.

**DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES**

**LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY**

**STATE OF ALASKA**

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450  
FAX (907) 465-2029  
Mail Stop 3101

130 Seward Street, Suite 409  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-2105

**MEMORANDUM**

February 27, 1995

**SUBJECT:** Sectional Summary of HB 167 (Educational programs for Alaska Native languages, culture, and history)

**TO:** Representative Irene Nicholia

**FROM:** Teresa B. Cramer  
Legislative Counsel

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill. As a preliminary matter, note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill and the bill itself is the best statement of its contents.

**Section 1** enacts new statutes related to Alaska Native Language and Culture Education Programs.

Sec. 14.03.210 describes what an Alaska Native language and culture education program consists of. Its purpose is to provide Alaska Native students with an understanding of their language, history, and cultural heritage. Subsection (b) sets out possible program components and permits school districts to enter into contracts with other nonsectarian schools for the provision of one or more of the components.

Sec. 14.03.220 requires that enrollment in a program be voluntary. Under subsection (b), children who are not Alaska Natives may enroll if the enrollment is economically feasible.

Sec. 14.03.230 requires that these programs be held in regular schools and prohibits assigning students to schools in ways that result in segregation.

Sec. 14.03.240 requires that Alaska Native students participate fully and on an equal basis with their peers in courses that are predominantly nonverbal, including art, music, and physical education classes.

Sec. 14.03.250 sets out requirements for Alaska Native language and culture education teacher certificates.

Sec. 14.03.260 prohibits districts from replacing existing teachers with Alaska Native language and culture teachers. Under subsection (b), the commissioner of education may grant exemptions to the certification requirements of Sec. 14.03.250. Under subsection (c), Alaska Native language and culture teachers must be compensated under a salary schedule that is at least equivalent to the salary schedule for teachers holding standard teaching certificates. Under subsection (d), the district must give preference to and make affirmative efforts to employ persons who share the culture of the Alaska Native children who are

enrolled in the program. The school district is also required to involve parent committees in hiring procedures.

Sec. 14.03.270 provides for teachers' aides and community coordinators.

Sec. 14.03.280 directs that parents of children enrolled in a program be involved in the program to the maximum extent possible and requires parent committees where there are 10 or more Alaska Native children enrolled in the program. Under subsection (c), the parent committee adopts a resolution each year indicating whether it concurs or disagrees with the school board's education programs for Alaska Native children.

Sec. 14.03.290 sets out the duties of the state Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education. Under subsection (a), the Board of Education is directed to provide for the maximum involvement of parents, secondary students, teachers and teachers' aides in the programs, teachers who are Alaska Natives themselves, community groups, and people who are knowledgeable about Alaska Native education. Under subsections (b) and (c), the Commissioner of Education is directed to provide technical assistance and apply for federal money for Alaska Native education.

Sec. 14.03.400 defines "program" and school district" for the previous statutory sections.

**Sec. 2** removes reference to the limited certificate for Alaska Native language and culture since it will be replaced with the certificate provided under Sec. 14.03.250 above.

**Sec. 3** provides that a teacher who holds a certificate issued under Sec. 14.03.250 is considered a certificated teacher for purposes of teachers' retirement and is considered to hold a standard teaching certificate for purposes of acquiring tenure.

**Sec. 4** directs that school districts in which there are at least 10 Alaska Native students actively recruit teacher applicants who are Alaska Natives.

Isaac Juneby  
Box 107  
Eagle, Alaska 99738  
February 13, 1995

Representative Alan Austerman, Chairman  
House Committee, Community and Regional Affairs  
Alaska State House of Representatives  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Austerman:

I am writing to comment on HB 160 and HB 167, sponsored by Representative Nicholia. I am asking you as Chairman of the CRA to support the passage of these important bills I am proponent of Native Education and Culture programs in our schools.

Because, I have seen for many years that Native Languages do disappear and die, my wife and I have been involved for years that this does not happen to the Han Language. Both my wife and I have been involved with the Han Literacy Workshops put on by the Yukon College of Whitehorse and Council of Yukon Indians.

Let me explain why I think these two bills are important. First and foremost, I was one of the unfortunates that couldn't speak my Native Language in School. It was a horrible experience to be scared and punished for not being able to speak my Native Language in school. I have been deprived of my identity and heritage.

This to me was a violation of the United States Code of Human Rights. Nobody should be punished for who and what they are. These 2 bills are what's needed for many of our children in the villages. The Cultural awareness, language, identity and self-esteem are knowledge that all Native Children should know in order to survive today's world.

I have difficult time with many of the rural schools teaching Russian, French, Spanish and German and ignoring the Native Languages. I believe if there were some respect for our people's culture, we wouldn't be having misunderstanding about one's heritage as we do now.

I know what can happen to any language if the interests are not there to enhance it's survival. We need to emphasize the importance of their existence. I am appealing to you and your Committee to make sure that some of our languages are not history, and having children read and

study in the schools, and saying that "There was once a Tribe of Athabascan Indians". I know that you will do everything in your Committee to make sure that this does not happen. I am asking for your support to see that these bills are passed in your Committee.

If you have any questions, call me at (907) 547-2281.

Sincerely,

*Isaac Juneby*  
Isaac Juneby

C/C

Representative Irene Nicholia  
Alaska State House of Representatives  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Representative Ivan Ivan  
Alaska State House of Representatives  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Representative Pete Kott  
Alaska State House of Representatives  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Representative Al Vezey  
Alaska State House of Representatives  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Representative Kim Elton  
Alaska State House of Representatives  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Representative Jerry Mackie  
Alaska State House of Representatives  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Senator Georgianna Lincoln  
Alaska State Senate  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

IRENE L. SOLOMON-ARNOLD  
P.O. BOX 548  
TOK, ALASKA 99780  
FEBRUARY 22, 1995

Representative Alan Austerman, Chairman  
House Committee, Community and Regional Affairs  
Alaska State House of Representatives  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Austerman:

I am writing this letter regarding the House Bills 160 and 167 which is sponsored by Representative Nicholia. I have great concern regarding the passages of these bills because I am directly involved in the Athabascan Language Teaching in Tok. I know from experience that there is no support for promoting Native Languages in our schools. I believe the passage of these bills will enhance and highlight the revival of our Native Languages in the public schools.

I began teaching my Language, Tanacross Athabascan, in Sept. 1992 when the Tok Indian Education Councils initiated the program into our local public school system. At that time I was employed as OSAP Youth Counselor at a local agency office when the this part time job became available I applied for it and was selected to began teaching. Since I was not knowledgeable in any teaching method I was fortunate enough in being sent to Yukon Native Language Centre in Whitehorse, Yukon Canada for training in the oral method of teaching. The reason this program is a success in this school is because of that training. I am going to receive a Teacher's Certificate from Yukon College in June of 1995 which is not a recognized certificate in Alaska but, I believe, these three years of training has been a plus for this language class.

Now the problem is this, in all the years of training for this certificate I have had no financial assistance from the Alaska Gateway School District, Tanana Chiefs Conference Education Department or the Alaska State Education system. All my training has been financed by Yukon Native Education Council Committee which includes my room, board and travel expenses for one week twice a year. If these two bills were recognized and passed this can be corrected for anyone who is seeking an education or a job as Native Language Teacher. Even though I am still struggling with the present school system to accept my Native Language

as part of the school curriculum I continue seeking ways to further my education in this field. I am the first and only graduate of Native Language Education in Associate of Applied Science Degree from the University of Alaska Fairbanks in May 1994. I find that teaching and preserving my language important enough to sacrifice a full time wages and benefits for a part time job with no benefits.

I hope this personal statement will get some positive response for the House Bills 160 and 167. If you need to contact me for further personal support I can be reached at (907) 883-2812 or (907) 883-5161.

Sincerely,

*Irene L. Solomon-Arnold*  
Irene L. Solomon-Arnold

C/C

Representative Irene Nicholia  
Alaska State House of Representative  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Senator Georgianna Lincoln  
Alaska State Senate  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Representative Jerry Mackie  
Alaska State House of Representative  
~~State~~ Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182