

SB

275

HFIN

FILE

(11)

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

Date Referred to Committee: April 7, 2000

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 4/12/00

The FINANCE Committee considered:

CSSB 275(HES)

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 275(HES)

POSTSECONDARY LOAN PROGRAM:SCHOOL YR

"An Act relating to the school year for purposes of the postsecondary student loan program; and providing for an effective date."

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute _____ the same title a new title

additional referral to _____ Committee
 attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: _____ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): (Dept) _____ APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date) _____
 fiscal note(s) _____ fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____ zero fiscal note(s) DEED 3-24-00

| SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS | DP | DNP | NR | AM |
|------------------------------------|----|-----|----|----|
| <i>Sam Theriault</i> Theriault | X | | | |
| <i>Neil Phillips</i> Phillips | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Bill Williams</i> Williams | X | | | |
| <i>Larry Davis</i> Davis | X | | | |
| <i>Charles Moses</i> Moses | | | ✓ | |
| <i>Ben Grussendorf</i> Grussendorf | X | | | |
| <i>Paul Davies</i> DAVIES | X | | | |
| <i>Mark Austerman</i> Austerman | | | X | |
| <i>Bob Bunde</i> Bunde | ✓ | | | |
| <i>John Foster</i> Foster | X | | | |
| <i>John Miller</i> | X | | | |

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE *Sam Theriault* *John Miller*
Theriault Miller

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2000 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1
BILL Bill Version: 275
(S) Publish Date: 3/24/00

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) _____ | Dept. Affected <u>EED</u> |
| Title <u>An Act relating to the school year for purposes</u> | BRU <u>ACPE</u> |
| of the postsecondary student loan program;... | Component <u>Alaska Student Loan Program</u> |
| Sponsor <u>(S)HESS</u> | |
| Requester <u>(S)HESS</u> | Component No. <u>212</u> |

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2001 | FY 2002 | FY 2003 | FY 2004 | FY 2005 | FY 2006 |
|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Personal Services | | | | | | |
| Travel | | | | | | |
| Contractual | | | | | | |
| Supplies | | | | | | |
| Equipment | | | | | | |
| Land & Structures | | | | | | |
| Grants & Claims | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

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|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | | | | | | |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health | | | | | | |
| Other (Specify Type) | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

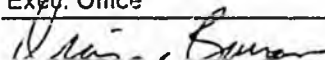
Estimate of any current year (FY2000) cost: _____

POSITIONS

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time | | | | | | |
| Part-time | | | | | | |
| Temporary | | | | | | |

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This legislation proposes to change the definition of "school year" and will have no financial impact to the ASLC.

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Prepared by: <u>Donna Mayfield, Exec. Asst.</u> | Phone <u>465-6740</u> |
| Division <u>Expo. Office</u> | Date/Time <u>3/20/00 4:28 PM</u> |
| Approved by: <u> Viane Barrans, Exec. Director</u> | Date <u>3/20/2000</u> |
| Agency <u>Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education</u> | |

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CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 275(HES)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

**Offered: 3/24/00
Referred: Finance**

Sponsor(s): SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the school year for purposes of the postsecondary student
2 loan program; and providing for an effective date."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * Section 1. AS 14.43.160(5) is amended to read:

5 (5) "school year" means an academic [THE] period that is a
6 minimum of 30 weeks of instructional time that begins between [FROM]
7 September 1 of one year and [THROUGH] August 31 of the following year;

8 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2000.

Sponsor Statement, SB 275

Currently subsection (5) of Section 160 ("Definitions") of AS 14.43 reads: "school year" means the period from September 1 of one year through August 31 of the following year;"

The bill would amend the definition to read: "school year" means an academic period that is a minimum of 30 weeks of instructional time that begins between September 1 of one year and August 31 of the following year;

The current definition of "school year" assumes an agricultural society, such as existed when public education in America began in earnest in the 1820's and 1830's. Then the vast majority, perhaps 85 to 90 percent, of Americans lived on family farms. The school year was designed to begin after fall harvest and end before spring planting.

Today hardly more than one-percent of our population lives on family farms. That school calendar is obsolete, especially for higher education in urban America.

The U. S. Department of Education defines an academic year as thirty weeks of instruction, and virtually all colleges and universities follow that pattern, either offering two fifteen-week semesters or three ten-week quarters. However most continue to use the "agriculture" calendar, making it difficult to offer a fast-track program for urban individuals who want to get on with their education in a vigorous fashion. Yet the U. S. Department of Education will offer a full loan to a full-time student who completes successfully a thirty-week academic year., and will offer another loan as soon as that student begins another similar period of full-time study.

Charter College, in Anchorage, has experimented with offering five ten-week quarters in one calendar year or one and two-thirds academic years in one calendar year. That has proven popular because it permits a student, intent upon serious and vigorous approach to education, to complete a two-year associate degree in just fifteen months. Charter is now in the planning stage of four-year bachelor degree programs, which will permit ambitious and hard-working students to complete their degrees in as little as thirty consecutive months. But unlike students in other programs following the slower and more traditional calendar, they cannot now get four state loans for their degrees, given the current definition of a school year. They deserve the option of taking on the challenge of a fast-track baccalaureate degree. Under that circumstance, the sum total of their loans for their education will be no more than that for their counterparts following traditional calendars. However, the cost of their education will have been reduced because they will have yielded less foregone income during their college years when they were in no position to hold full-time jobs.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2000 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1
BILL Bill Version: 275
(S) Publish Date: 3/24/00

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) _____ Dept. Affected EED
 Title An Act relating to the school year for purposes BRU ACPE
of the postsecondary student loan program;... Component Alaska Student Loan Program
 Sponsor (S)HESS
 Requester (S)HESS Component No. 212

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2001 | FY 2002 | FY 2003 | FY 2004 | FY 2005 | FY 2006 |
|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Personal Services | | | | | | |
| Travel | | | | | | |
| Contractual | | | | | | |
| Supplies | | | | | | |
| Equipment | | | | | | |
| Land & Structures | | | | | | |
| Grants & Claims | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| | | | | | | |
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| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

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|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | | | | | | |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health | | | | | | |
| Other (Specify Type) | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

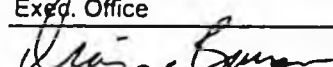
Estimate of any current year (FY2000) cost: _____

POSITIONS

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time | | | | | | |
| Part-time | | | | | | |
| Temporary | | | | | | |

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This legislation proposes to change the definition of "school year" and will have no financial impact to the ASLC.

Prepared by: Donna Mayfield, Exec. Asst. Phone 465-6740
 Division Exec. Office Date/Time 3/20/00 4:28 PM
 Approved by:  Diane Barrans, Exec. Director Date 3/20/2000
 Agency Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
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| Title <u>An Act relating to the school year for purposes</u> | BRU <u>ACPE</u> |
| <u>of the postsecondary student loan program;...</u> | Component <u>Alaska Student Loan Program</u> |
| Sponsor <u>(S)HESS</u> | |
| Requester <u>(S)HESS</u> | Component No. <u>212</u> |

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2001 | FY 2002 | FY 2003 | FY 2004 | FY 2005 | FY 2006 |
|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Personal Services | | | | | | |
| Travel | | | | | | |
| Contractual | | | | | | |
| Supplies | | | | | | |
| Equipment | | | | | | |
| Land & Structures | | | | | | |
| Grants & Claims | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

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| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

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|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | | | | | | |
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| 1037 GF/Mental Health | | | | | | |
| Other (Specify Type) | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

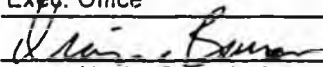
Estimate of any current year (FY2000) cost: _____

POSITIONS

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time | | | | | | |
| Part-time | | | | | | |
| Temporary | | | | | | |

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

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| Prepared by: | Donna Mayfield, Exec. Asst. | Phone | 465-6740 |
| Division | Exec. Office | Date/Time | 3/20/00 4:28 PM |
| Approved by: |  Diane Barrans, Exec. Director | Date | 3/20/2000 |
| Agency | Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education | | |

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| of the postsecondary student loan program;... | Component <u>Alaska Student Loan Program</u> |
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| Travel | | | | | | |
| Contractual | | | | | | |
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| Equipment | | | | | | |
| Land & Structures | | | | | | |
| Grants & Claims | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | | | | | | |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health | | | | | | |
| Other (Specify Type) | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Estimate of any current year (FY2000) cost: _____

POSITIONS

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time | | | | | | |
| Part-time | | | | | | |
| Temporary | | | | | | |

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This legislation proposes to change the definition of "school year" and will have no financial impact to the ASLC.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Prepared by: _____ | Donna Mayfield, Exec. Asst. | Phone <u>465-6740</u> |
| Division: <u>Exec. Office</u> | | Date/Time <u>3/20/00 4:28 PM</u> |
| Approved by: _____ | Diane Barrans, Exec. Director | Date <u>3/20/2000</u> |
| Agency: <u>Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education</u> | | |

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ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATE BILL NO. 275

HISTORY IN THE SENATE

2000
2/16
4/4
3/34
4/6
4/6
4/6
4/6
4/6

Read first time and referred to:
HES, FIN
FIN referral WAIVED; to DIS

HES RPT(HES) CS 4 DP ___ NR ___ DNP ___ AM
New Title Same Title ___ Previous FN ___
FN OFN ___ To FIN

RPT(___) CS ___ DP ___ NR ___ DNP ___ AM
New Title ___ Same Title ___ Previous FN ___
FN ___ OFN ___ To ___

RPT(___) CS ___ DP ___ NR ___ DNP ___ AM
New Title ___ Same Title ___ Previous FN ___
FN ___ OFN ___ To ___

Rules Calendar(___) CS ___ AM ___ Other ___
New Title ___ Same Title ___ Previous FN ___
FN ___ OFN ___

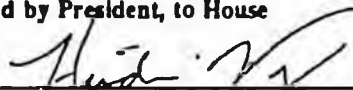
Read second time
 CS Adopted (HES) ___ New Title ___
Amended ___ Advanced

Read third time
___ Letter of Intent adopted
___ Return to second for specific amendment

4/6
PASSED EFD Same or
Yeas 20 Yeas
Nays 0 Nays
Excused 0 Excused
Absent 0 Absent

Reconsideration
Reconsideration not taken up

PASSED EFD Same ___ or
Yeas 7 Yeas
Nays ___ Nays
Excused ___ Excused
Absent ___ Absent

4/6 Reported correctly engrossed
Signed by President, to House

Secretary of the Senate

HISTORY IN THE HOUSE

2000
4/7

Read first time and referred to:
FIN

RPT CS() ___ New Title ___
DP ___ DNP ___ NR ___ AM ___
FN ___ OFN ___ Previous FN ___

RPT CS() ___ New Title ___
DP ___ DNP ___ NR ___ AM ___
FN ___ OFN ___ Previous FN ___

RPT CS() ___ New Title ___
DP ___ DNP ___ NR ___ AM ___
FN ___ OFN ___ Previous FN ___

Read second time
CS() Adopted

Amended

Advanced

Read third time

Return to second for specific amendment

PASSED EFD Same ___ or
Yeas ___ Yeas
Nays ___ Nays
Excused ___ Excused
Absent ___ Absent

___ Intent adopted

Reconsideration
Reconsideration not taken up

PASSED ON RECON. EFD Same ___ or
Yeas ___ Yeas
Nays ___ Nays
Excused ___ Excused
Absent ___ Absent

___ Intent adopted

Reported correctly engrossed, signed by the Speaker
and returned to the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

There will be no additional cost to the state or to the loan program as a result of this redefinition.

Bill History/Action Display



BILL: SB 275 SHORT TITLE: POSTSECONDARY LOAN PROGRAM:SCHOOL YR
 BILL VERSION: CSSB 275 (HES)
 SPONSOR(S): HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES

CURRENT STATUS: (H) FIN STATUS DATE: 4/07/00

HEARING: (H) FIN Apr 10 1:30 PM HOUSE FINANCE 519 <Pending Referral>

TITLE: "An Act relating to the school year for purposes of the postsecondary student loan program; and providing for an effective date."

[Full Text](#) Detailed 2000 fiscal note information currently not available on-line.

Committee Action With Bill History

| Jrn-Date | Jrn-Page | Action |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2/16/00 | 2317 | (S) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS |
| 2/16/00 | 2318 | (S) HES, FIN |
| 3/24/00 | 2722 | (S) HES RPT CS 4DP SAME TITLE |
| 3/24/00 | 2722 | (S) DP: MILLER, WILKEN, PEARCE, ELTON |
| 3/24/00 | 2722 | (S) ZERO FISCAL NOTE (DOE) |
| 4/04/00 | 2861 | (S) FIN REFERRAL WAIVED REFERRED TO RULES |
| 4/06/00 | 2904 | (S) RLS TO CALENDAR AND 1 OR 04/06/00 |
| 4/06/00 | 2905 | (S) READ THE SECOND TIME |
| 4/06/00 | 2905 | (S) HES CS ADOPTED UNAN CONSENT |
| 4/06/00 | 2905 | (S) ADVANCED TO THIRD READING UNAN CONSENT |
| 4/06/00 | 2905 | (S) READ THE THIRD TIME CSSB 275 (HES) |
| 4/06/00 | 2906 | (S) PASSED Y20 N- |
| 4/06/00 | 2906 | (S) EFFECTIVE DATE(S) SAME AS PASSAGE |
| 4/06/00 | 2909 | (S) TRANSMITTED TO (H) |
| 4/07/00 | | (H) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS |
| 4/07/00 | | (H) FIN |
| 4/07/00 | | (H) REFERRED TO FINANCE |

Similar Subject Match or Exact Subject Match

- EDUCATION
- LOANS
- UNIVERSITIES

Bill Root:

[Return to BASIS Main Menu\(21st Legislature\)](#)
[Return to the Legislature Home Page](#)
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Senate Majority News

Laura Achee, Senate Majority Press Secretary
State Capitol, Room 413
Juneau, AK 99801
Phone: (907) 465-4582

For Broadcast Actualities: (800) 478-6540
Web Site: <http://www.akrepublicans.org>

For Immediate Release: April 6, 2000

Contact: Senator Mike Miller, 465-4976

Senate Allows Year-Round Students to Receive Education Loans

(Juneau) The Alaska Senate unanimously passed legislation Thursday that makes financing a college education easier for Alaskan students. Senate Bill 275, sponsored by the Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee, changes the definition of an academic year for the purpose of the Alaska Post Secondary Loan Program.

The Alaska Post Secondary Loan Program limits the student loans that an individual may take within an academic year. Under current statutes, an academic school year is defined as the period from September 1 of one year through August 31 of the following year. SB 275 would change the definition to "a minimum of 30 weeks of instructional time that begins between September 1 of one year and August 31 of the following year."

This change allows students who complete one year's worth of study and begin a second within a calendar year to be able to receive student loans for all of their studies. It also makes the state definition conform with the U.S. Department of Education definition of an academic year.

"An academic year that begins in the fall and ends in the spring worked well when the United States was primarily an agricultural society, when students needed to be free in the summer to work on a farm," said Senator Mike Miller, Chair of the Health, Education and Social Services Committee. "Most students no longer have that obligation, and some colleges and universities are re-designing their academic calendars to accommodate students who prefer to accelerate their academic progress, becoming wage-earners in the shortest time possible. SB 275 allows them to do this, without unfairly limiting their financial aid."

SB 275 moves to the House for consideration.

#

SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

March 20, 2000

1:33 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Mike Miller, Chairman
Senator Gary Wilken
Senator Drue Pearce
Senator Kim Elton

MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator Pete Kelly, Vice-Chairman

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

SENATE BILL NO. 261

"An Act relating to needle stick and sharps injury protections and the use of safe needles by health care facilities and health care professionals; and providing for an effective date."

-MOVED CSSB 261(HES) OUT OF COMMITTEE

SENATE BILL NO. 275

"An Act relating to the school year for purposes of the postsecondary student loan program; and providing for an effective date."

-MOVED CSSB 275(HES) OUT OF COMMITTEE

PREVIOUS SENATE COMMITTEE ACTION

SB 261 - See HESS minutes dated 3/8/00.

SB 275 - No previous action to report.

WITNESS REGISTER

Ms. Wanda Katiszki
Alaska Nurses Association
237 E 3rd
Anchorage, AK 99501

POSITION STATEMENT: Supports SB 261

Ms. Donna Thompson
No Address Provided

POSITION STATEMENT: Supports SB 261

Mr. Cle Wade

the vaccination of health care workers was not covered in the title of the bill so Amendment 3 adds a short statement to the title and better defines the language.

SENATOR ELTON moved to adopt Amendment 3 which reads as follows.

A M E N D M E N T 3

OFFERED IN THE SENATE
TO: SB 261

BY SENATOR ELTON

Page 1, line 2, following " ; ":

Insert "relating to the vaccination of health care workers against diseases transmitted by blood borne pathogens;"

Page 3, line 24:

Delete "increase vaccinations"

Insert "encourage the vaccination of health care workers against diseases transmitted by blood borne pathogens"

There being no objection, CHAIRMAN MILLER announced Amendment 3 was adopted.

SENATOR ELTON moved SB 261 as amended with the attached and hopefully changing fiscal note. There being no objection, CSSB 261 (HES) moved from committee.

#

#SB 275

SB 275-POSTSECONDARY LOAN PROGRAM:SCHOOL YR

CHAIRMAN MILLER noted SB 275 was introduced by the Senate HESS Committee. The bill changes the definition of the school year to provide student loans for students attending schools that offer a two year degree within a 15 month time period. Charter College offers such a degree, and it is working on a four year degree program that a student could earn in 2 1/2 years. SB 275 changes the requirement that loans be granted only according to the traditional school year.

MR. MILT BYRD, President of Charter College and a member of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE), explained that the modification of the definition of a school year is consistent with the definition of the U.S. Department of Education. Historically, colleges and universities have offered two semesters of 15 weeks each or three quarters of ten weeks for a total of 30 weeks for the academic year. Language in the current statute

assumes that students will go to school for nine months of the year to achieve 30 weeks of instruction. One can put together a fast track program whereby the 30 week instructional year can be offered in about 7½ months. That permits a student to complete a four year degree in 30 months or 2½ years. Charter College uses that structure. Currently, it offers a two-year degree and plans to develop into a four year institution. Charter College is concerned that students will need to pay four years of tuition for the fast track program but will be unable to get four years of loans. The modification of the current statute will simply provide that a 30 week period of academic instruction constitutes a full year and provides for one full loan.

MR. BYRD said the House companion bill was slightly modified. The word "occurs" was changed to "begins" on page 1, line 6, to allow students who are on a fast track program to apply for two loans during the period from September 1 to August 31. That change was approved by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education at its meeting last Thursday.

SENATOR ELTON asked, if the word "begin" is used, why the dates of September 1 and August 31 are necessary. He asked if the bill could say that a school year means an academic period that is a minimum of 30 weeks of instruction time.

MR. BYRD replied that would be fine from his point of view, but ACPE staff is concerned that the additional loan year be part of the record for reasons unrelated to this particular change.

MS. DIANE BARRANS, Executive Director of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, forwarded to the committee the endorsement taken by the ACPE the previous week. In regard to Senator Elton's question, she said the terms and conditions for each school year are set and disclosed within the Alaska Student Loan Corporation's official statement. In order to accurately track those terms and conditions from one year to the next, a time period is set that they will apply to - the reason the dates are needed in SB 275.

There being no further testimony on SB 275. CHAIRMAN MILLER moved to replace the word "occurs" with "begins" on page 1, line 6. There being no objection, the motion carried.

SENATOR WILKEN moved CSSB 275(HES) from committee with individual recommendations and its zero fiscal note. There being no objection, it was so ordered. CHAIRMAN MILLER noted the bill has no fiscal note.

MS. BARRANS told committee members the bill has no fiscal impact

but that she would provide a zero fiscal note for the next committee of referral.

There being no further business to come before the committee, CHAIRMAN MILLER adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.