

HB

239

HFIN

FILE

FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA
2001 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: HB 239
 (H) Publish Date: 4/25/01

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Education & Early Development
 Title: An Act establishing a pilot program for a BRU: K-12 Support
regional learning center. Component: Boarding Home Grants
 Sponsor: Rep. Foster
 Requester: House Special Committee on Education Component Number: 148

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims	75.0	311.0	311.0	311.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	75.0	311.0	311.0	311.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

FUND SOURCE	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	75.0	311.0	311.0	311.0	0.0	0.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	75.0	311.0	311.0	311.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2001) cost: 0.0

Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2002 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: *(Attach a separate page if necessary)*
 This legislation would require the department to develop a pilot program for a regional learning center within the Bering Strait School District. The department would establish a contract with a school district to operate the pilot regional learning center. The contract would require the school district to provide the department with periodic reports as to the progress of the pilot project including an assessment of student performance as it relates to the implementation of the project.
 Estimated cost include a planning grant of \$75,000 in FY02.
 Operational grants for FY03 through FY05 will be \$311,000 annually.
 See attached analysis.

Prepared by: Eddy Jeans, School Finance Manager Phone 465-8679
 Division: Education Support Services Date/Time 4/24/01 12:00 AM
 Approved by: Bruce Johnson, Deputy Commissioner of Education Date 4/25/01
 Agency: Education & Early Development

For distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

Fiscal Analysis of HB 239, FN#1

1) Provides for 2 full time house parents.	\$120,000
2) 1 Program Coordinator	75,000
3) Transportation for students 20 student X 40 units X \$300	60,000
4) Food 20students X 40 units X 7 days X \$10	<u>56,000</u> \$311,000

Alaska House of Representatives

Richard Foster
P.O. Box 1630
Nome, AK 99762
907-443-5036
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During Session
State Capitol Rm. 410
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
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Majority Whip

HB 239

"An Act establishing a pilot program for a regional learning center"

Sponsor's Statement

The Twenty-first Alaska Legislature through the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee (LB&A) hearings found indications of broad support for regional learning centers. Several communities have expressed interest in creating regional boarding programs focused on the special interests of their region.

The LB&A meeting in Nome helped create a renewed interest in the possibility of a regional boarding school that would teach vocational skills and other job related and living skills that are not available in the high schools of small isolated communities.

The Bering Strait School District and the Nome City School District have been exploring the feasibility of a cooperative program that would utilize the existing Nome Beltz School complex to develop and operate a pilot regional learning program.

The Bering Strait School District and the Nome Common Council have both taken actions to support the creation of a pilot program and to seek federal funding to help cover program planning and initial operation costs.

A conceptional overview of the program is contained in the March 20, 2001 letter from, Dr. John Davis, Superintendent of the Bering Strait School District. The April 26, 2001 letter from Mary Knodel, Nome Common Council Member helps to define and support the concept.



CITY OF NOME

Celebrating 100 Years of Gold Rush History

Incorporated April 9, 1901

March 15, 2001

The Honorable Richard Foster
Alaska State Legislature
State Capital, Room 410
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Foster:

On behalf of the City of Nome, Alaska, I wish to state our strong support for a Regional Learning Center in Nome.

A Regional Learning Center would be a new type of residential educational institution that will provide both college preparatory, college level, and vocational training to students in grades 11 through 14. The Learning Center will expose junior and senior high school students to college level expectations and allow those who desire a university education a longer transition from rural villages to education in urban Alaska.

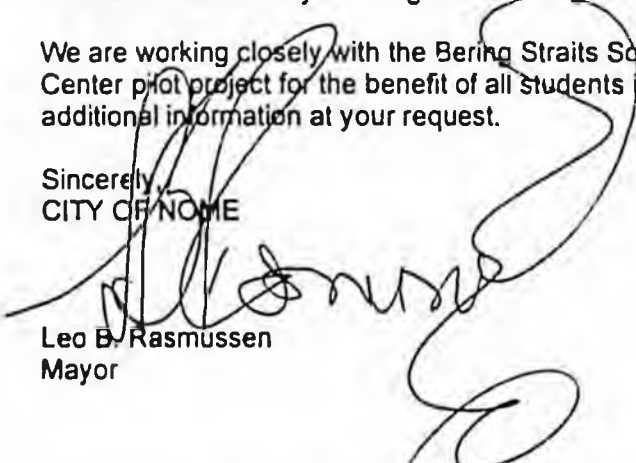
Our regional education leaders who are closely acquainted with the career educational needs of our students are highly excited about the proposal and opportunity to improve and enhance the quality of education at the secondary and post-secondary levels. Being fully aware that a great majority of Nome students do not progress on to college (due to the high costs of tuition, boarding and travel to Anchorage, Juneau or Fairbanks and the impracticalities of leaving in their families for great lengths of time), educators see the program offerings at the Nome-Beltz complex as attractive options for individuals to acquire career skills and become qualified, credible members of the Alaskan job force.

Nome already has an institutional advantage on which we can build at our Nome-Beltz school complex and a University of Alaska-Fairbanks campus site. Siting such a program in Nome makes sense due to the size of the population in our region, the transportation hub and municipal infrastructure resources in place, as well as the fact the City provides tax-generated fiscal support to education programs.

The City of Nome has prepared a concept document which provides information on renovation costs, student projections, curriculum and conceptual operations budget to convert and utilize the William E. Beltz facility as a regional learning/vocational education center.

We are working closely with the Bering Straits School District to develop a Regional Learning Center pilot project for the benefit of all students in our region. We stand by prepared to assemble additional information at your request.

Sincerely,
CITY OF NOME


Leo B. Rasmussen
Mayor

DISTRICT OFFICE

BERING STRAIT SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 225
UNALAKLEET, ALASKA 99684-0225
(907) 624-3611

20 March, 2001

The Honorable Richard Foster
The House of Representatives
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau AK 99801-1182

BREVIG MISSION

COUNCIL Dear Representative Foster:

DIOMEDE Over the past two months, the Bering Strait School District and the Nome City
ELIM School District have begun discussions about working together to better serve the
GAMBE students in the region. This letter is to serve as an introduction to our discussions.

GOLOVIN The school districts have been talking about developing a regional learning center
KOYUK located in Nome. The learning center would use the available space at the Nome
SAINT MICHAEL Beltz High School. It would be necessary to refurbish and rehabilitate the student
housing and the vocational education facilities.

SAVOONGA The two school districts will be seeking support to provide program development
SHAKTOOLIK for a demonstration project, support to operate the program and funding to
SHISHMAREF remodel living quarters and classroom space.

STEBBINS The primary goal of the center is to support and supplement the local high school
TELLER programs by expanding the career awareness and skills of students. Eventually,
UNALAKLEET we envision a program that would support the educational program for high
WALES school age students and young people looking to complete their high school
program or begin training for a career.

WHITE MOUNTAIN The Bering Strait region has several career opportunities that now require
significant importation of qualified staff from out of the region and even out of the
state. These areas are education, health care, transportation (aviation) and
government services (law enforcement). We believe that the development of a
program to help introduce students to career opportunities will enhance the
region's ability to fill these jobs with local students.

The second aspect of this program is the development of the residential
component. Our goal will be to develop a program that will prepare young
people to learn the needed skills to live and work independently. In addition, the
program will help students earn the basic skills required of a person entering the
work force or apprentice program. Currently most apprentice programs require a
high school diploma and achievement of the age 18.

The center would expand the opportunity for the public school system, social
service agencies (Kawerak), economic development organizations (NSEDG) and the

DISTRICT OFFICE

BERING STRAIT SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 225

UNALAKLEET, ALASKA 99684-0225

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community college to coordinate and maximize services now being provided in the region.

I hope this gives you an overview of our early discussions. Your support and recommendations about how we might generate the required support would be appreciated.

Should you or your staff have any question, please let me know.

BREVIG MISSION

COUNCIL

DIOMEDE

ELIM

GAMBELL

GOLOVIN

KOYUK

SAINT MICHAEL

SAVOONGA

SHAKTOOLIK

SHISHMAREF

STEBBINS

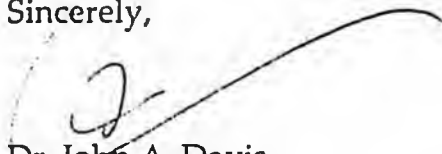
TELLER

UNALAKLEET

WALES

WHITE MOUNTAIN

Sincerely,



Dr. John A. Davis
Superintendent

cc: C. Weyiouanna, Pres., B&SD Board
S. Swopc, Supt., Nome CSD
Nome City Council