

SB

84

<TARGET><BILL>SB 84</BILL><SUBJECT>SB
84</SUBJECT><COMM>SEDC28</COMM></TARGET>

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate District N
*Anchorage Hillside, Turnagain Arm,
Cooper Landing, Sterling, Nikiski,
Moose Pass, Bear Creek, Seward*



State Capitol, Room 427
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Senator Cathy Giessel

SB 84 Military Youth Academy Sponsor Statement

SB 84 will amend state statute to change the funding mechanism for the Alaska Military Youth Academy, establish the program within the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, and update the program name. Currently, the Alaska Military Youth Academy receives one third of its funding from a per student calculation that was established in 2002. While the intent of this funding formula was to protect funding for a fledgling program with a guaranteed level of funding, the Alaska Military Youth Academy has grown and proven to be highly successful and viable. The base student allocation calculation is no longer necessary. By moving to a direct appropriation, the funding will be based on the program's needs and success.

The Alaska Military Youth Academy began as a ten-state pilot program operated by the National Guard Youth "ChallenNGe Program". Governor Walter J. Hickel, along with Major General Hugh L. Cox signed an agreement on October 15, 1993, establishing the pilot program the Alaska National Guard Youth Corps. By 1998, the program was approved as a permanent program and in 1999, Senator Ted Stevens worked with the legislature and encouraged changing the name of the program to the Alaska Military Youth Academy, but it was not formally changed in Alaska Statute. The Academy, operating within the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, is an accredited special purpose school that helps Alaskan youth make positive life changes.

Their mission is, "To help intervene in and reclaim the lives of at-risk youth and produce program graduates with the values, skills, education, and self-discipline to succeed as adults." The Academy is based on the ChallenNGe Program, targeting men and women 16-18 years of age who have dropped out of high school. Cadets complete a 22-week residential school program based on the traditional military training model. In addition to working to obtain a high school diploma or GED, cadets receive instruction in life coping skills, job training, service to the community, leadership, and responsible citizenship. The Academy has been essential in intervening to help young people become productive members of society.

The Academy has received numerous national and state awards and accolades for their successful program and service to the community through mentorship, drug and alcohol abuse prevention, academic excellence and innovative job skills training. Of the 33 programs offered in 27 different states and the territory of Puerto Rico, Alaska is noted for being among the top five programs in the nation. In nearly 20 years, the Academy has graduated almost 4,000 cadets. This program provides opportunities for young men and women to thrive and achieve their goals despite failures or obstacles in the past. Many of the graduates have gone on to join the military or continue their education. Program participants leave the program as responsible productive citizens and have collectively donated thousands of hours of community service. With the right opportunities, mentoring, and intervention, our youth can turn their lives around and reach their full potential.

The funding formula for the Academy was designed to provide a secure source of funding for a fledgling program. Over the past decade, the Academy has proven to be a successful program that can stand on its own merits. It is time to change the funding mechanism from student-based to results-based so that the Academy can continue impacting the lives of at-risk youth by setting them on the path of success.

Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov

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SB 84 Military Youth Academy

Sectional Analysis

Section 1: Amends AS 14.30.745(a), by replacing the word “Challenge” with “Military.” While the program was originally recognized as the Alaska Challenge Youth Academy, it is now known as the Alaska Military Youth Academy.

Section 2: Amends AS 44.35.020 by adding a new subsection AS 44.35.020 (c), establishing the Alaska Military Youth Academy as a part of the National Guard Youth Challenge Program established under 32 U.S.C. 509. Enabling legislation was never enacted; this section corrects this oversight and establishes the academy under the operation of the Department of Military and Veterans’ Affairs.

Section 3: Repeals AS 14.30.740. Currently this section addresses funding for the academy. The funding is equal to the base student allocation multiplied by seven for each residential student added to the base student allocation multiplied by 6/10 for each nonresidential student, minus the amount received by the program in federal matching grant funds. The number of students is calculated on October 1 of the prior year.

Section 4: Creates an effective date of January 1, 2014. This date would give the Department of Military and Veterans’ Affairs the opportunity to submit a full budget to the Office of Management and Budget for review.

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2013 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 84
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB084-DMVA-AMVA-03-29-13
Title: MILITARY YOUTH ACADEMY
Sponsor: GIESSEL
Requester: Senate Education Committee

Department: Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs
Appropriation: Military and Veterans' Affairs
Allocation: Alaska Military Youth Academy
OMB Component Number: 1969

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2014	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2014 Request	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2014	FY 2014					
Personal Services		7,349.2					
Travel		139.3					
Services		1,983.3					
Commodities		1,164.9					
Capital Outlay		103.1					
Grants & Benefits		334.8					
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	11,074.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1002 Fed Rcpts		4,172.9					
1003 G/F Match			1,238.3				
1004 Gen Fund		56.8	3,553.1				
1005 GF/Prgm		1.0					
1037 GF/MH		6,814.2	(4,791.4)				
1178 temp code		29.7					
Total	0.0	11,074.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time		89.0					
Part-time		1.0					
Temporary							

Change in Revenues							
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2013) cost: 0.0

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2014) cost: 0.0

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Initial version.

Prepared By: McHugh Pierre, Deputy Commissioner
Division: Office of the Commissioner, DMVA

Approved By: Major General Thomas H. Katkus, Commissioner
Office of the Commissioner, DMVA

Phone: (907)428-6003
Date: 03/29/2013 03:00 PM
Date: 03/29/13

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 84

Analysis

This bill 1) changes the name of the Alaska Challenge Youth Academy to the Alaska Military Youth Academy under AS 14.30.745, 2) allows the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs (DMVA) to establish and operate the Alaska Military Youth Academy under AS 44.35.020, 3) repeals the funding formula prescribed under AS 14.30.740, and 4) establishes an effective date of January 1, 2014.

There is no fiscal impact to DMVA for this bill. The repeal of the funding formula would replace, in FY15, the Reimbursable Services Agreement from the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) with a direct appropriation to DMVA. State funding is diversified to include match funding as required under the federal Cooperative Agreement and general funds for costs that exceed match requirements but support AMYA's mission to intervene in and reclaim the lives of at-risk youth and to produce graduates of the program with the values, skills, education, and self-discipline necessary to succeed as adults.

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2013 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 84
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB084-EED-K12-3-29-13
Title: MILITARY YOUTH ACADEMY
Sponsor: GIESSEL
Requester: Senate Education Committee

Department: Department of Education and Early Development
Appropriation: K-12 Support
Allocation: Alaska Challenge Youth Academy
OMB Component Number: 2837

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2014	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2014 Request	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2014	FY 2014					
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits		4,791.4					
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	4,791.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund		4,791.4					
Total	0.0	4,791.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues							
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2013) cost: 0.0

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2014) cost: 0.0

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Initial version.

Prepared By: Elizabeth Nudelman, Director
Division: School Finance & Facilities
Approved By: Mike Hanley
Commissioner

Phone: (907)465-8697
Date: 03/29/2013 05:35 PM
Date: 03/29/13

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB84

Analysis

The legislation amends AS 14.30.745 by changing the name of the Alaska Challenge Youth Academy to the Alaska Military Youth Academy (AMYA).

The legislation adds a new subsection, AS 44.35.020, that authorizes the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs to operate the AMYA as part of the National Guard Youth Challenge Program established under 32 U.S.C 509.

The legislation repeals AS 14.30.740, which provided the calculation for funding the Alaska Challenge Youth Academy and authorized the Department of Education & Early Development (DEED) to allocate those funds to the program.

The legislation would take effect January 1, 2014.

With an effective date of January 1, 2014, the K-12 Alaska Challenge Youth Academy component allocation of \$4,791,400 in DEED's FY2014 operating budget would remain and be paid to the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs.

In subsequent years, the Alaska Challenge Youth Academy component allocation would be in the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs operating budget.

Repealing AS 14.30.740 would result in a reduction to DEED's operating budget for FY2015 through FY2019.



ALASKA MILITARY YOUTH ACADEMY

*The Alaska Military Youth Academy is part of the National Guard's Youth ChalleNge program with the mission:
"To help reclaim the lives of at-risk youth and produce program graduates with the values, skills, education and self-discipline to succeed as adults".*



Challenges facing Alaska and the country:

- Nationally, 25% of freshman fail to graduate; in Alaska it's higher at about 30%
- Decades of research show that high school dropouts are more likely to commit crimes, abuse drugs and alcohol, have children out of wedlock, earn low wages, be un or underemployed, and suffer poor health than are individuals who successfully complete high school.
- HS dropouts are 72% more likely to be unemployed
- 75% of state prison inmates nationally are former dropouts
- Intervening and getting these young people back on track is essential

Background

- Governor Walter J. Hickel, along with Maj Gen Hugh L. Cox (The Adjutant General, DMVA) signed an agreement on 15 October, 1993, establishing the pilot program for what was then known as the Alaska National Guard Youth Corps.
- The first AMYA Director was Col John C. Fleming
- One of our first staff members was Mr. Mike Masters who retired in 2011. He helped run AMYA's first class in 1994. So we are one of the oldest programs in the country.
- The national ChalleNge program, of which AMYA is part, grew out of a project by the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in the late 1980s and early 90s that sought to develop new approaches for out of school youth. CSIS concluded that many existing models focused on symptomatic behaviors without understanding and addressing the underlying causes.
- In 1991, Lt Gen Conaway (Chief, National Guard Bureau) presented "Vision 2020" which incorporated and formalized a third community role, or mission, for the National Guard, to be active participants in domestic concerns through local, regional and nationwide initiatives and programs.
- The National Guard bureau developed the specific model in use at AMYA and designed it to be an intervention, rather than a remedial program. The program deals with the symptoms and underlying causes in a construct that embraces a "whole person" using our life skills curriculum of 8 core components to give the cadets tools, skills and experience that will help them be successful.
- In 1993, Congress funded a 10-site pilot program, of which Alaska was one.
- Alaska's first class (1994-1) graduated 43 cadets on June 30, 1994. Class 2013-1 will graduate 144 students on 1 March, 2013.
- ChalleNge is a national organization with 33 programs in 27 states and the territory of Puerto Rico; over 110,000 graduates nationally and about 9,000 annual graduates across the country.

Some graduates

- SSG Zachary Pilcher (Class 1995-1) USMC (Bronze Star Recipient); currently police officer in AK
- US Airways Flight Attendant Kenji Gailey (Class 2002-2) Started small business after graduation, sold it to and now works for Ross Perot, Jr.
- SSG Andrew Mitchell (2001-1) USMC (Formerly assigned to Marine One during the Bush Administration)
- SSG Aaron Lopez,(2004-1) US Army (Bronze Star Recipient)
- Klaus Welch (2006-2) Received A+ certification while at AMYA and started own company; is now contracted to GCI

What do we do:

- The Academy has a quasi-military life learning and academic environment; focused on prevention of bad choices and assisting in good choices
- Anchorage is our biggest city AMYA gets many students locally, but recruits to whole state.
- All students who become candidates/cadets are volunteers
- Residential phase (5 1/2 months); post-residential phase (12 months)

- Eight core components: Academic Excellence, Physical fitness, Job skills (VoTech & safety), Service to the Community, Health and Hygiene, Responsible citizenship, leadership/followership, Life coping skills
- HS Diplomas (accredited with Northwest Accreditation Commission) for those with enough credits, GED, 7 credits for attending toward Diploma, assistance with credit recovery
- Placement assistance after residential phase during post-residential support phase

Mentoring program

- Mentoring; volunteers can apply with RPM section; mentors carefully screened (includes criminal background check) and formal training is provided
- Each applicant needs a mentor
- Requirements: at least 21, same sex, pass police background check, can't be immediate family
- Structure program: Training provided by RPM
- Provide advice and counsel, assist future planning, help assess placement options and strategies

Six Sections: (RPM (recruiting, placement, & mentoring), Medical and Counseling, Cadet Support Services, Cadre, Dining Facility, Academics); 74 staff

- Academic section was noted as best in national program in 2010 and we're better now
- RPM noted this year as one of top six in the country; participated in this year's benchmarking summit
- AMYA invited to participate in Cooperative Agreement rewrite
- Mr. Roman Schara; Cadet Support Services; won Honorable mention in the Governor's Peak Performance awards

Results

- Annual Target: 288 cadets/year (144/class)
- Graduates of Academy to date: 3,796 (as of 2012-2)(2013-1 graduates 144 cadets 1 Mar 2013)
- We in-test with TABE (Test of Adult Basic Education) and then test out to know exactly how effective we've been (~1.35 academics years per residential class)
- Can award up to seven (7) credits for those who pass each classes (additional credits may occasionally be awarded depending on individual student background and achievement)

Mathematics: 1.0 credit Science: 1.0 credit Social Studies: 1.0 credit
English: 1.0 credit Physical Fitness: 1.0 credit Life Coping: 1.0 credit
Integrated Studies (course emphasis, credit recovery, remedial training, testing, & supplemental curriculum)
Wilderness Training: 1/2 credit
Vocational Technical Education: 1/2 credit

Approximate Demographics (varies class to class):

- Gender: Males: 70% ; Females: 30%
- Race: Native Alaskan: 22%; White: 35%; Asian/Pacific Islander: 15%; Black: 14%; Hispanic: 10%; 4% Other
- Age: Sixteen: 32%; Seventeen: 30%; Eighteen: 14%

Website: akmya.org

AMYA is on Facebook





THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

**Department of Military and
Veterans Affairs**

Office of the Commissioner

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March 26, 2013

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

Sen. Giessel:

SB 84 is critical legislation that allows the Alaska Military Youth Academy to achieve the next level of success. It will set an even greater number of high school dropouts back on a fruitful path and provide the opportunity for a rewarding and productive life.

Historically, our funding formula protected a fledgling Youth Academy before the establishment of its current record of accomplishment. With over 4,000 graduates, the Academy has attained an incredible reputation for helping teens get a second chance.

In establishing the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs budget, I strive to address the needs of the division directors to meet our organizational goals. The current AMYA funding formula does not allow a results-oriented budgeting process. We fall short of our true potential.

The academy staff aspires to build and develop our at risk youth. The staff is part of an institution recognized as one of the top National Guard Youth ChalleNGe programs in the country. With a direct appropriation to the division, we will step-up our current high level of accomplishment and provide an even greater number of teens the ability to find success in life.

Thank you for sponsoring SB 84. I encourage all of your colleagues to support this bill and take fast action to make it law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas H. Katkus".

MG Thomas H. Katkus
Commissioner



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

Department of Military and
Veterans Affairs

Alaska Military Youth Academy

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March 22, 2013

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Subj: Senate Bill 84

Senator Giessel:

In 1994, the Alaska National Guard Youth Corps (renamed the Alaska Military Youth Academy in 1999) was founded as a pilot program with the aim to help reclaim the lives of at-risk youth and produce program graduates with the values, skills, education and self-discipline to succeed as adults. The program's quasi-military structure has matured into one of the most successful programs of its type in the United States. The national program and other state programs regularly look to Alaska for suggestions on best practices and successful integration of process and techniques.

Previous state support has been outstanding and integral to the ability of the Academy to lead the way in developing a superior product that addresses individual, familial and community issues in a way which provides a focused, values-based training and education environment for those individuals who have volunteered to enter and finish a tough but rewarding environment. The Academy has now graduated almost 4,000 cadets who have received certification and/or been redirected successfully to high school, college, the military or a productive work environment.

We support formal establishment and operation of the program as a mature component of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. As a staff, we at the Academy are also very appreciative of the continued support by both the Department of Education and Early Development and school districts across the State for providing contact information for young Alaskans. This helps us ensure awareness of this valuable program and we look forward to continuing teamwork in this area. As we teach our graduates, there are always challenges ahead and we believe that this program has greater vistas ahead to support the great citizenry of a great state. On behalf of the entire staff at AMYA, we offer both our thanks and full support for Senate Bill 84.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Clyde T. Burton".

Clyde T. Burton
Director