

SB

80

<TARGET><BILL>SB 80</BILL><SUBJECT>SB
80</SUBJECT><COMM>SEDC29</COMM></TARGET>

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

600 East Railroad Ave., Ste 1
Wasilla, Alaska 99654
(907) 376-3370
Fax (907) 376-3157



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 465-6600
Fax (907) 465-3805

Mike Dunleavy
Senator

Sponsor Statement for Senate Bill 80

SB 80 establishes an active role in public education for the legislature by requiring the legislature to give final approval of statewide educational standards and standardized assessments. Public education is a primary governmental function and the legislature is the ultimate authority in Alaska for public education. This authority is outlined in the Alaska Constitution and has been emphasized in recent court cases. Article 7 of the Alaska Constitution, titled Health, Education, and Welfare requires in part that, "The legislature shall by general law establish and maintain a system of public schools open to all children of the State..." In the recent Moore vs. State of Alaska case, it was stated "...this Court returns once again to the language of the Alaska Constitution, which places the responsibility 'to maintain a system of public schools open to all children of the state' squarely upon the legislature –not upon the Department of Education and Early Development and not upon local school districts."

In light of growing concerns surrounding the adoption of a new set of standards and assessments, and with more accountability being demanded by the public, it is crucial that the adopted standards and assessments our state mandates be selected through a process that directly involves the public and the legislature.

SB 80 requires state adopted standards and assessments to be:

- reviewed at least once every five years by a committee composed of no less than 50% of parents with school age children
- reviewed starting in 2015 with a report and request for approval during the 2016 legislative session
- approved by the legislature

SB 80 also prevents the Department of Education and Early Development from accepting grants which have associated standards and mandates (such as assessments), unless approved by the legislature.

The legislature needs to step up its responsibility for public education. I request your support for SB 80.

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2015 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 80
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB080-EED-SSA-3-23-15
Title: ED. STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENTS/FED FUNDS
Sponsor: DUNLEAVY
Requester: Senate Education Committee

Department: Department of Education and Early Development
Appropriation: Teaching and Learning Support
Allocation: Student and School Achievement
OMB Component Number: 2796

Expenditures/Revenues

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

	FY2016	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2016 Request	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2016	FY 2016					
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services	389.7						389.7
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	389.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	389.7

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund	389.7						389.7
Total	389.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	389.7

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues							
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2015) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2016) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

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:

Not applicable, initial version.

Prepared By: Paul R. Prussing, Deputy Director
Division: Teaching & Learning Support
Approved By: Mike Hanley, Commissioner
Agency: Department of Education & Early Development

Phone: (907)465-8721
Date: 03/23/2015 02:37 PM
Date: 03/23/15

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 80

Analysis

Section 1 adds a new subsection to AS 14.07.020, Duties of the Department, that states the department cannot accept funds if they will affect state educational policy or require future state appropriations, without approval from the senate and house education committees. No additional funds are needed to carry out this section.

Section 2 amends AS 14.07.030, Powers of the Department, to include Section 1 additions. No additional funds are needed to carry out this section.

Section 3 adds a new section AS 14.07.034, Performance standards and student assessments review committee. At least once every five years, this committee would be convened to review the state's performance standards and student assessments. The following expenses would be incurred in order to conduct the required review:

- 3 Standards Consultants with specific expertise in language arts, math, and science to guide review committee; 25 day contract x \$2,000 a day for consultation services and travel = \$150,000. Includes report.

- Contract for services for assessment review = \$200,000. Includes report.

- Review committee travel and per diem for a 36 member committee = \$39,720. 12 committee members per content area with four members for each grade span (3-5, 6-8, 9-10). Three two-day meetings (one in person, two via distance). Three training rooms at \$1,400 each per day for two days = \$8,400; Travel at \$750 per person (36) for one in-person meeting = \$27,000. Per diem at \$60 a day per person (36) for two days each = \$4,320.

Total: \$389,720 in FY2016, FY2021, and every five years thereafter.

Sections 4 and 5 are related to adopting amendments in Section 1. No additional funds are needed to carry out these sections.

Section 6 amends the Executive Budget Act by adding (i) "Notwithstanding (h) of this section, the Department of Education and Early Development may not accept federal or other program receipts not specifically appropriated by the full legislature unless the Department of Education and Early Development complies with AS 14.07.020(d) before accepting the federal or other program receipts." This section specifically restricts the department's ability to accept of federal funds without the new process as described in Section 1, which could result in the loss of federal funding to the department and school districts.

Section 7 adds a new section to the uncodified law that requires the department to convene the first committee immediately in order to have a report to the 29th legislature. In addition, the department may implement current standards and assessments through the 2015-2016 school year.

Section 8 This bill becomes effective immediately.