

Commissioner of  
Education to  
outline course of  
study, etc.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Education to outline the minimum course of study for each of the two years of the teacher's training course in "normal high schools," to choose the textbooks which shall be used in the same, to specify the minimum qualifications of instructors, to prepare or cause to be prepared questions for use in the examination of students taking the teacher's training course, and to prescribe rules and regulations for the conduct of such examinations and for the general conduct of said teacher's training course in normal high schools.

Approved April 18, 1919.

## CHAPTER 10.

### AN ACT

(S. B. 28)

Creating a textbook commission, prescribing its powers and duties, and declaring an emergency.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska:

Text Book Com-  
mission created  
—membership,  
appointment,  
qualifications  
and term of  
office

Section 1. That a textbook commission consisting of the Commissioner of Education as ex-officio chairman, and two legally qualified teachers of Alaska to be appointed by him with the advice and consent of the Governor, as President of the Territorial Board of Education, is hereby created. Said textbook commission shall serve for a period of four years and until their successors are appointed and qualified. Vacancies in the membership of the commission caused by resignation, withdrawal from the Territory or from other causes shall be filled in the same manner as in the case of the original appointees, the newly appointed members to serve until the completion of the four year period. Members of the commission shall, before entering upon the duties of their office, take an oath before some person authorized to administer the same, to faithfully discharge all the duties imposed upon them as members of the textbook commission, and that they

have no interest directly or indirectly in any adoption that may be made and will receive no personal benefit therefrom, and that they will examine all books submitted carefully and faithfully, and said oath shall be filed with the Secretary of the Territory.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the textbook commission to select and adopt a uniform set of textbooks for use in all the branches of study presented in the elementary schools of the Territory, and to select and adopt an approved list of textbooks for use in each of the subjects presented in the high schools of the Territory. None of the books so selected and adopted shall contain anything of a partisan or sectarian character. After September 1, 1921, it shall be unlawful for any school to use textbooks other than those adopted by the textbook commission except for purposes of supplementary study; Provided, that where it is impossible for any school to secure the approved textbooks, others may be substituted on approval of the Commissioner of Education.

Commission to adopt textbooks for schools, etc.

Date when adoption effective

Section 3. All textbook adoptions shall be made for a period of four years. A majority vote of the members of the commission shall be necessary for the adoption of any book. After the first adoption has been made, no more than one third of the original list of books shall be changed during any one year.

Manner and Period of time of adoption

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Education to send the names of the members of the textbook commission to the various school textbook publishing houses, and to request that sample copies of such books as they may see fit to present be forwarded to them together with the introductory and exchange prices of the same. In making his or her selection of books each member of the commission shall take into consideration the merits of each book in subject matter, mechanical qualities, price and general suitability for the purposes intended.

Duties Commissioner of Education and Commission reference to adoption

Section 5. It shall be the duty of each appointive member of the textbook commission to forward to the Commissioner of Education, within a reasonable time after appointment, his or her first and second choice of textbooks for use in the elementary schools, and a list of textbooks approved for high school use. These lists, together with that prepared by the Commissioner of Education, shall be used by him in determining the result of the vote, and it shall be his duty, in case there is no clear majority in favor of any particular textbook in a certain subject, to secure a further expression from the various members of the Commission until a majority have expressed themselves as favoring the adoption of the textbook in question. The Commissioner of Education shall keep a record of all proceedings, votes and actions of the commission, and shall report to each member of the commission the choice of each other member at the time a vote on the textbook for use in any particular subject is taken.

How textbooks  
chosen

Commissioner to  
notify school  
boards

Section 6. It shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Education to forward to each school board in the Territory a report of the textbooks adopted for use in the elementary and high schools, together with the names of the publishers and the introductory retail price and exchange price of the same.

Appropriation to  
carry out provi-  
sions act

Section 7. There is hereby appropriated from the general fund of the Territory the sum of \$250.00 to be expended under the direction of the Territorial Board of Education for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act.

Emergency

Section 8. An emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Act shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval.

Approved April 18, 1919.