



# LAWS OF ALASKA

2010

**Source**

HCS CSSB 237(FIN) am H

**Chapter No.**

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**AN ACT**

Relating to energy consumption and costs, operating costs, and energy efficiency standards for school construction and major maintenance by the Department of Education and Early Development; amending the percentages required to be paid by a municipal school district receiving a school construction or major maintenance grant; making a conforming amendment to a bond debt reimbursement provision referencing the percentages; establishing a formula and a fund for school construction grant funding for regional educational attendance areas; extending the deadline for authorizing school construction debt reimbursed by the state; requiring a report from the Department of Education and Early Development; and providing for an effective date.

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

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1



**AN ACT**

1 Relating to energy consumption and costs, operating costs, and energy efficiency standards  
2 for school construction and major maintenance by the Department of Education and Early  
3 Development; amending the percentages required to be paid by a municipal school district  
4 receiving a school construction or major maintenance grant; making a conforming amendment  
5 to a bond debt reimbursement provision referencing the percentages; establishing a formula  
6 and a fund for school construction grant funding for regional educational attendance areas;  
7 extending the deadline for authorizing school construction debt reimbursed by the state;  
8 requiring a report from the Department of Education and Early Development; and providing  
9 for an effective date.

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11 \* **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section  
12 to read:

1 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

2 (1) the Alaska Superior Court, Third Judicial District, in *Kasayulie v. State of*  
3 *Alaska*, Case No. 3AN-97-3782 (1999), determined that

4 (A) the method of funding capital projects for school construction and  
5 major maintenance does not provide rural schools with adequate or equitable funding  
6 opportunities; and

7 (B) while urban schools are adequately funded through existing  
8 mechanisms including bond debt, taxes, and appropriations, a comparable mechanism  
9 for funding rural schools does not exist;

10 (2) the mechanisms that currently exist in statute to provide construction  
11 funding to regional educational attendance areas have not resulted in sufficient funding for  
12 projects approved for those districts.

13 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 14.07.020(a) is amended to read:

14 (a) The department shall

15 (1) exercise general supervision over the public schools of the state  
16 except the University of Alaska;

17 (2) study the conditions and needs of the public schools of the state,  
18 adopt or recommend plans, administer and evaluate grants to improve school  
19 performance awarded under AS 14.03.125, and adopt regulations for the improvement  
20 of the public schools;

21 (3) provide advisory and consultative services to all public school  
22 governing bodies and personnel;

23 (4) prescribe by regulation a minimum course of study for the public  
24 schools; the regulations must provide that, if a course in American Sign Language is  
25 given, the course shall be given credit as a course in a foreign language;

26 (5) establish, in coordination with the Department of Health and Social  
27 Services, a program for the continuing education of children who are held in detention  
28 facilities in the state during the period of detention;

29 (6) accredit those public schools that meet accreditation standards  
30 prescribed by regulation by the department; these regulations shall be adopted by the  
31 department and presented to the legislature during the first 10 days of any regular

1 session, and become effective 45 days after presentation or at the end of the session,  
2 whichever is earlier, unless disapproved by a resolution concurred in by a majority of  
3 the members of each house;

4 (7) prescribe by regulation, after consultation with the state fire  
5 marshal and the state sanitarian, standards that will assure healthful and safe  
6 conditions in the public and private schools of the state, including a requirement of  
7 physical examinations and immunizations in pre-elementary schools; the standards for  
8 private schools may not be more stringent than those for public schools;

9 (8) exercise general supervision over pre-elementary schools that  
10 receive direct state or federal funding;

11 (9) exercise general supervision over elementary and secondary  
12 correspondence study programs offered by municipal school districts or regional  
13 educational attendance areas; the department may also offer and make available to any  
14 Alaskan through a centralized office a correspondence study program;

15 (10) accredit private schools that request accreditation and that meet  
16 accreditation standards prescribed by regulation by the department; nothing in this  
17 paragraph authorizes the department to require religious or other private schools to be  
18 licensed;

19 (11) review plans for construction of new public elementary and  
20 secondary schools and for additions to and major rehabilitation of existing public  
21 elementary and secondary schools and, in accordance with regulations adopted by the  
22 department, determine and approve the extent of eligibility for state aid of a school  
23 construction or major maintenance project; for the purposes of this paragraph, "plans"  
24 include educational specifications, schematic designs, **projected energy consumption**  
25 **and costs**, and final contract documents;

26 (12) provide educational opportunities in the areas of vocational  
27 education and training, and basic education to individuals over 16 years of age who  
28 are no longer attending school;

29 (13) administer the grants awarded under AS 14.11;

30 (14) establish, in coordination with the Department of Public Safety, a  
31 school bus driver training course;

1 (15) require the reporting of information relating to school disciplinary  
2 and safety programs under AS 14.33.120 and of incidents of disruptive or violent  
3 behavior;

4 (16) establish by regulation criteria, based on low student performance,  
5 under which the department may intervene in a school district to improve instructional  
6 practices, as described in AS 14.07.030(14) or (15); the regulations must include

7 (A) a notice provision that alerts the district to the deficiencies  
8 and the instructional practice changes proposed by the department;

9 (B) an end date for departmental intervention, as described in  
10 AS 14.07.030(14)(A) and (B) and (15), after the district demonstrates three  
11 consecutive years of improvement consisting of not less than two percent  
12 increases in student proficiency on standards-based assessments in math,  
13 reading, and writing as provided in AS 14.03.123(f)(2)(A); and

14 (C) a process for districts to petition the department for  
15 continuing or discontinuing the department's intervention;

16 (17) notify the legislative committees having jurisdiction over  
17 education before intervening in a school district under AS 14.07.030(14) or redirecting  
18 public school funding under AS 14.07.030(15).

19 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 14.11.008(b) is amended to read:

20 (b) The required participating share for a municipal school district is based on  
21 the district's full value per average daily membership (ADM), which is calculated by  
22 dividing the full and true value of the taxable real and personal property in the district,  
23 calculated as described in AS 14.17.510, by the district ADM as defined in  
24 AS 14.17.990, for the same fiscal year for which the valuation was made. The  
25 municipal district's full value per ADM determines the district's required participating  
26 share, as follows:

27 Full Value Per ADM	District Participating Share
28 \$1 - \$150,000	5 percent
29 150,001 - 275,000	10 percent
30 275,001 - <b>500,000</b> [800,000]	<b>20</b> [30] percent
31 <b>500,001 - 800,000</b>	<b>30 percent</b>

1 over 800,000

35 percent.

2 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 14.11.014(b) is amended to read:

3 (b) The committee shall

4 (1) review the department's priorities among projects for which school  
5 construction grants are requested;

6 (2) make recommendations to the board concerning school  
7 construction grants and make recommendations to the commissioner concerning  
8 projects for which bond reimbursement is requested;

9 (3) develop criteria for construction of schools in the state; criteria  
10 developed under this paragraph must include requirements intended to achieve cost  
11 effective school construction;

12 (4) analyze existing prototypical designs for school construction  
13 projects;

14 (5) establish a form for grant applications;

15 (6) establish a method of ranking grant projects;

16 (7) recommend to the board necessary changes to the approval process  
17 for school construction grants and for projects for which bond reimbursement is  
18 requested;

19 **(8) set standards for energy efficiency for school construction and**  
20 **major maintenance to provide energy efficiency benefits for all school locations in**  
21 **the state and that address energy efficiency in design and energy systems that**  
22 **minimize long-term energy and operating costs.**

23 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 14.11 is amended by adding new sections to read:

24 **Sec. 14.11.025. State aid for school construction in regional educational**  
25 **attendance areas.** (a) In addition to other appropriations and funding sources, the  
26 department may provide grant funding from the fund established under AS 14.11.030  
27 to a school district that is a regional educational attendance area.

28 (b) The amount of money available each fiscal year for expenditure under (a)  
29 of this section shall be the annual debt service on debt incurred under AS 14.11.100(a)  
30 divided by the percentage of all schools that are located in a city or borough school  
31 district, the quotient of which is to be multiplied by .244.

1           **Sec. 14.11.030. Regional educational attendance area school fund.** (a) The  
2 regional educational attendance area school fund is created as an account in the  
3 general fund to be used, in addition to other funding sources, to fund projects  
4 approved under AS 14.11.025 for the costs of school construction in regional  
5 educational attendance areas.

6           (b) Legislative appropriations, including appropriations of interest earned on  
7 the fund, shall be deposited in the fund established under this section. The fund  
8 balance may not exceed \$70,000,000.

9           (c) Money appropriated to the fund does not lapse except to the extent money  
10 in the fund exceeds the maximum fund balance specified in (b) of this section.

11           **Sec. 14.11.035. Report on school construction and major maintenance**  
12 **fundings.** Beginning in February 2013, the department shall provide to the governor  
13 and the legislature an annual report on the effectiveness of the school construction and  
14 major maintenance grants, state aid for school construction in regional educational  
15 attendance areas, and state aid for costs of school construction debt under this chapter.  
16 The report must include an analysis of funding sources and the short-term and long-  
17 term fiscal effects of the funding on the state. Copies of the report shall be made  
18 available to the public and to the legislature.

19 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 14.11.100(a) is amended to read:

20           (a) During each fiscal year, the state shall allocate to a municipality that is a  
21 school district the following sums:

22                   (1) payments made by the municipality during the fiscal year two years  
23 earlier for the retirement of principal and interest on outstanding bonds, notes, or other  
24 indebtedness incurred before July 1, 1977, to pay costs of school construction;

25                   (2) 90 percent of

26                           (A) payments made by the municipality during the fiscal year  
27 two years earlier for the retirement of principal and interest on outstanding  
28 bonds, notes, or other indebtedness incurred after June 30, 1977, and before  
29 July 1, 1978, to pay costs of school construction;

30                           (B) cash payments made after June 30, 1976, and before July 1,  
31 1978, by the municipality during the fiscal year two years earlier to pay costs

1 of school construction;

2 (3) 90 percent of

3 (A) payments made by the municipality during the fiscal year  
4 two years earlier for the retirement of principal and interest on outstanding  
5 bonds, notes, or other indebtedness incurred after June 30, 1978, and before  
6 January 1, 1982, to pay costs of school construction projects approved under  
7 AS 14.07.020(a)(11);

8 (B) cash payments made after June 30, 1978, and before July 1,  
9 1982, by the municipality during the fiscal year two years earlier to pay costs  
10 of school construction projects approved under AS 14.07.020(a)(11);

11 (4) subject to (h) and (i) of this section, up to 90 percent of

12 (A) payments made by the municipality during the current  
13 fiscal year for the retirement of principal and interest on outstanding bonds,  
14 notes, or other indebtedness incurred after December 31, 1981, and authorized  
15 by the qualified voters of the municipality before July 1, 1983, to pay costs of  
16 school construction, additions to schools, and major rehabilitation projects that  
17 exceed \$25,000 and are approved under AS 14.07.020(a)(11);

18 (B) cash payments made after June 30, 1982, and before July 1,  
19 1983, by the municipality during the fiscal year two years earlier to pay costs  
20 of school construction, additions to schools, and major rehabilitation projects  
21 that exceed \$25,000 and are approved under AS 14.07.020(a)(11); and

22 (C) payments made by the municipality during the current  
23 fiscal year for the retirement of principal and interest on outstanding bonds,  
24 notes, or other indebtedness to pay costs of school construction, additions to  
25 schools, and major rehabilitation projects that exceed \$25,000 and are  
26 submitted to the department for approval under AS 14.07.020(a)(11) before  
27 July 1, 1983, and approved by the qualified voters of the municipality before  
28 October 15, 1983, not to exceed a total project cost of (i) \$6,600,000 if the  
29 annual growth rate of average daily membership of the municipality is more  
30 than seven percent but less than 12 percent, or (ii) \$20,000,000 if the annual  
31 growth rate of average daily membership of the municipality is 12 percent or

1 more; payments made by a municipality under this subparagraph on total  
2 project costs that exceed the amounts set out in (i) and (ii) of this subparagraph  
3 are subject to (5)(A) of this subsection;

4 (5) subject to (h) - (j) of this section, 80 percent of

5 (A) payments made by the municipality during the fiscal year  
6 for the retirement of principal and interest on outstanding bonds, notes, or  
7 other indebtedness authorized by the qualified voters of the municipality

8 (i) after June 30, 1983, but before March 31, 1990, to  
9 pay costs of school construction, additions to schools, and major  
10 rehabilitation projects that exceed \$25,000 and are approved under  
11 AS 14.07.020(a)(11); or

12 (ii) before July 1, 1989, and reauthorized before  
13 November 1, 1989, to pay costs of school construction, additions to  
14 schools, and major rehabilitation projects that exceed \$25,000 and are  
15 approved under AS 14.07.020(a)(11); and

16 (B) cash payments made after June 30, 1983, by the  
17 municipality during the fiscal year two years earlier to pay costs of school  
18 construction, additions to schools, and major rehabilitation projects that exceed  
19 \$25,000 and are approved by the department before July 1, 1990, under  
20 AS 14.07.020(a)(11);

21 (6) subject to (h) - (j) and (m) of this section, 70 percent of payments  
22 made by the municipality during the fiscal year for the retirement of principal and  
23 interest on outstanding bonds, notes, or other indebtedness authorized by the qualified  
24 voters of the municipality on or after April 30, 1993, but before July 1, 1996, to pay  
25 costs of school construction, additions to schools, and major rehabilitation projects  
26 that exceed \$200,000 and are approved under AS 14.07.020(a)(11);

27 (7) subject to (h) - (j) and (m) of this section, 70 percent of payments  
28 made by the municipality during the fiscal year for the retirement of principal and  
29 interest on outstanding bonds, notes, or other indebtedness authorized by the qualified  
30 voters of the municipality after March 31, 1990, but before April 30, 1993, to pay  
31 costs of school construction, additions to schools, and major rehabilitation projects;

1 (8) subject to (h), (i), (j)(2) - (5), and (n) of this section and after  
2 projects funded by the bonds, notes, or other indebtedness have been approved by the  
3 commissioner, 70 percent of payments made by the municipality during the fiscal year  
4 for the retirement of principal and interest on outstanding bonds, notes, or other  
5 indebtedness authorized by the qualified voters of the municipality on or after July 1,  
6 1995, but before July 1, 1998, to pay costs of school construction, additions to  
7 schools, and major rehabilitation projects that exceed \$200,000 and are approved  
8 under AS 14.07.020(a)(11);

9 (9) subject to (h), (i), (j)(2) - (5), and (n) of this section and after  
10 projects funded by the bonds, notes, or other indebtedness have been approved by the  
11 commissioner, 70 percent of payments made by the municipality during the fiscal year  
12 for the retirement of principal and interest on outstanding bonds, notes, or other  
13 indebtedness authorized by the qualified voters of the municipality on or after July 1,  
14 1998, but before July 1, 2006, to pay costs of school construction, additions to  
15 schools, and major rehabilitation projects that exceed \$200,000 and are approved  
16 under AS 14.07.020(a)(11);

17 (10) subject to (h), (i), (j)(2) - (5), and (o) of this section, and after  
18 projects funded by the bonds, notes, or other indebtedness have been approved by the  
19 commissioner, 70 percent of payments made by the municipality during the fiscal year  
20 for the retirement of principal and interest on outstanding bonds, notes, or other  
21 indebtedness authorized by the qualified voters of the municipality on or after June 30,  
22 1998, to pay costs of school construction, additions to schools, and major  
23 rehabilitation projects that exceed \$200,000, are approved under AS 14.07.020(a)(11),  
24 and are not reimbursed under (n) of this section;

25 (11) subject to (h), (i), and (j)(2) - (5) of this section, and after projects  
26 funded by the bonds, notes, or other indebtedness have been approved by the  
27 commissioner, 70 percent of payments made by a municipality during the fiscal year  
28 for the retirement of principal and interest on outstanding bonds, notes, or other  
29 indebtedness authorized by the qualified voters of the municipality on or after June 30,  
30 1999, but before January 1, 2005, to pay costs of school construction, additions to  
31 schools, and major rehabilitation projects and education-related facilities that exceed

1 \$200,000, are approved under AS 14.07.020(a)(11), and are not reimbursed under (n)  
2 or (o) of this section;

3 (12) subject to (h), (i), and (j)(2), (3), and (5) of this section, 60 percent  
4 of payments made by a municipality during the fiscal year for the retirement of  
5 principal and interest on outstanding bonds, notes, or other indebtedness authorized by  
6 the qualified voters of the municipality on or after June 30, 1999, but before January 1,  
7 2005, to pay costs of school construction, additions to schools, and major  
8 rehabilitation projects and education-related facilities that exceed \$200,000, are  
9 reviewed under AS 14.07.020(a)(11), and are not reimbursed under (n) or (o) of this  
10 section;

11 (13) subject to (h), (i), (j)(2) - (5), and (p) of this section, and after  
12 projects funded by the tax exempt bonds, notes, or other indebtedness have been  
13 approved by the commissioner, 70 percent of payments made by a municipality during  
14 the fiscal year for the retirement of principal and interest on outstanding tax exempt  
15 bonds, notes, or other indebtedness authorized by the qualified voters of the  
16 municipality on or after June 30, 1999, but before October 31, 2006, to pay costs of  
17 school construction, additions to schools, and major rehabilitation projects and  
18 education-related facilities that exceed \$200,000, are approved under  
19 AS 14.07.020(a)(11), and are not reimbursed under (n) or (o) of this section;

20 (14) subject to (h), (i), (j)(2), (3), and (5), and (p) of this section, 60  
21 percent of payments made by a municipality during the fiscal year for the retirement  
22 of principal and interest on outstanding tax exempt bonds, notes, or other indebtedness  
23 authorized by the qualified voters of the municipality on or after June 30, 1999, but  
24 before October 31, 2006, to pay costs of school construction, additions to schools, and  
25 major rehabilitation projects and education-related facilities that exceed \$200,000, are  
26 reviewed under AS 14.07.020(a)(11), and are not reimbursed under (n) or (o) of this  
27 section;

28 (15) subject to (h), (i), (j)(2) - (5), and (q) of this section, and after  
29 projects funded by the bonds, notes, or other indebtedness have been approved by the  
30 commissioner, 90 percent of payments made by a municipality during the fiscal year  
31 for the retirement of principal and interest on outstanding bonds, notes, or other

1 indebtedness authorized by the qualified voters of the municipality on or after June 30,  
2 1999, but before October 31, 2006, to pay costs of school construction, additions to  
3 schools, and major rehabilitation projects and education-related facilities that exceed  
4 \$200,000, are approved under AS 14.07.020(a)(11), meet the 10 percent participating  
5 share requirement for a municipal school district under **the former participating**  
6 **share amounts required under** AS 14.11.008(b), and are not reimbursed under (n) or  
7 (o) of this section;

8 (16) subject to (h), (i), and (j)(2) - (5) of this section, and after projects  
9 funded by the tax exempt bonds, notes, or other indebtedness have been approved by  
10 the commissioner, 70 percent of payments made by a municipality during the fiscal  
11 year for the retirement of principal and interest on outstanding tax exempt bonds,  
12 notes, or other indebtedness authorized by the qualified voters of the municipality on  
13 or after October 1, 2006, [BUT BEFORE NOVEMBER 30, 2010,] to pay costs of  
14 school construction, additions to schools, and major rehabilitation projects and  
15 education-related facilities that exceed \$200,000, are approved under  
16 AS 14.07.020(a)(11), and are not reimbursed under (o) of this section;

17 (17) subject to (h), (i), and (j)(2), (3), and (5) of this section, 60 percent  
18 of payments made by a municipality during the fiscal year for the retirement of  
19 principal and interest on outstanding tax exempt bonds, notes, or other indebtedness  
20 authorized by the qualified voters of the municipality on or after October 1, 2006,  
21 [BUT BEFORE NOVEMBER 30, 2010,] to pay costs of school construction,  
22 additions to schools, and major rehabilitation projects and education-related facilities  
23 that exceed \$200,000, are reviewed under AS 14.07.020(a)(11), and are not  
24 reimbursed under (o) of this section.

25 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 14.11.135(6) is amended to read:

26 (6) "major maintenance" means a project described in  
27 AS 14.11.013(a)(1)(C), [OR] (D), **or (E)**;

28 \* **Sec. 8.** AS 14.11.135(7) is amended to read:

29 (7) "school construction" means a project described in  
30 AS 14.11.013(a)(1)(A), (B), [(E),] (F), or (G).

31 \* **Sec. 9.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to

1 read:

2 RETROACTIVITY. AS 14.11.008(b), as amended by sec. 3 of this Act, applies  
3 retroactively to an appropriation made under AS 37.05.560 or a grant approved under  
4 AS 14.11.008(a) on or after April 1, 2008.

5 \* **Sec. 10.** Section 5 of this Act takes effect July 1, 2012.

6 \* **Sec. 11.** Sections 1, 3, 6, and 9 of this Act take effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).