



LAWS OF ALASKA

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Source

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Chapter No.

AN ACT

Amending the amount of state funding provided to school districts for pupil transportation; relating to the local contribution for public education; relating to the vocational and technical instruction funding factor for public school funding; establishing in the Department of Education and Early Development a voluntary parent and early childhood education program for pre-elementary aged children; and providing for an effective date.

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

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1

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1 Amending the amount of state funding provided to school districts for pupil transportation;
2 relating to the local contribution for public education; relating to the vocational and technical
3 instruction funding factor for public school funding; establishing in the Department of
4 Education and Early Development a voluntary parent and early childhood education program
5 for pre-elementary aged children; and providing for an effective date.

6

7 * **Section 1.** AS 14.09.010(a) is repealed and reenacted to read:

8 (a) A school district that provides student transportation services for the
9 transportation of students who reside a distance from established schools is eligible to
10 receive funding for operating or subcontracting the operation of the transportation
11 system for students to and from the schools within the student's transportation service
12 area. Subject to appropriation, the amount of funding provided by the state for

operating the student transportation system is the amount of a school district's ADM, less the ADM for the district's correspondence programs during the current fiscal year, multiplied by the per student amount for the school district as follows:

DISTRICT	PER STUDENT AMOUNT	
	(1) for the school year beginning July 1, 2011	(2) for the school years beginning on or after July 1, 2012
Alaska Gateway	\$2,081	\$2,148
Aleutians East	311	321
Anchorage	435	449
Annette Island	182	188
Bering Strait	48	50
Bristol Bay	2,672	2,758
Chatham	280	289
Copper River	1,586	1,637
Cordova	335	346
Craig	423	437
Delta/Greely	1,656	1,709
Denali	1,808	1,866
Dillingham	1,218	1,257
Fairbanks	817	843
Galena	255	263
Haines	626	646
Hoonah	298	308
Iditarod	211	218
Juneau	604	623
Kake	271	280
Kashunamiut	5	5
Kenai Peninsula	766	944

1	Ketchikan	727	750
2	Klawock	584	603
3	Kodiak Island	799	825
4	Kuspuk	654	675
5	Lake and Peninsula	384	396
6	Lower Kuskokwim	277	286
7	Lower Yukon	1	1
8	Matanuska-Susitna	910	939
9	Nenana	587	606
10	Nome	621	641
11	North Slope	1,120	1,156
12	Northwest Arctic	25	26
13	Pelican	72	74
14	Petersburg	374	386
15	Saint Mary's	193	199
16	Sitka	428	442
17	Skagway	36	37
18	Southeast Island	1,155	1,192
19	Southwest Region	598	617
20	Tanana	478	493
21	Unalaska	648	669
22	Valdez	735	759
23	Wrangell	701	723
24	Yakutat	744	768
25	Yukon Flats	264	272
26	Yukon/Koyukuk	299	309
27	Yupitit	2	2.

* **Sec. 2.** AS 14.09.010 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(d) The department shall adopt regulations that provide for oversight of and support to school districts in achieving a safe and cost-effective student transportation system. The regulations must include a requirement for contract terms of not less than

1 three years, if feasible, standardized conditions and bid periods, and standards that
2 ensure cost efficiencies and exclusions.

3 * **Sec. 3.** AS 14.17.410(b) is amended to read:

4 (b) Public school funding consists of state aid, a required local contribution,
5 and eligible federal impact aid determined as follows:

6 (1) state aid equals basic need minus a required local contribution and
7 90 percent of eligible federal impact aid for that fiscal year; basic need equals the sum
8 obtained under (D) of this paragraph, multiplied by the base student allocation set out
9 in AS 14.17.470; district adjusted ADM is calculated as follows:

10 (A) the ADM of each school in the district is calculated by
11 applying the school size factor to the student count as set out in AS 14.17.450;

12 (B) the number obtained under (A) of this paragraph is
13 multiplied by the district cost factor described in AS 14.17.460;

14 (C) the ADMs of each school in a district, as adjusted
15 according to (A) and (B) of this paragraph, are added; the sum is then
16 multiplied by the special needs factor set out in AS 14.17.420(a)(1) and the
17 **secondary school vocational and technical instruction funding** [HIGH
18 SCHOOL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION] factor set out in
19 AS 14.17.420(a)(3);

20 (D) the number obtained for intensive services under
21 AS 14.17.420(a)(2) and the number obtained for correspondence study under
22 AS 14.17.430 are added to the number obtained under (C) of this paragraph;

23 (E) notwithstanding (A) - (C) of this paragraph, if a school
24 district's ADM adjusted for school size under (A) of this paragraph decreases
25 by five percent or more from one fiscal year to the next fiscal year, the school
26 district may use the last fiscal year before the decrease as a base fiscal year to
27 offset the decrease, according to the following method:

28 (i) for the first fiscal year after the base fiscal year
29 determined under this subparagraph, the school district's ADM adjusted
30 for school size determined under (A) of this paragraph is calculated as
31 the district's ADM adjusted for school size, plus 75 percent of the

1 difference in the district's ADM adjusted for school size between the
2 base fiscal year and the first fiscal year after the base fiscal year;

3 (ii) for the second fiscal year after the base fiscal year
4 determined under this subparagraph, the school district's ADM adjusted
5 for school size determined under (A) of this paragraph is calculated as
6 the district's ADM adjusted for school size, plus 50 percent of the
7 difference in the district's ADM adjusted for school size between the
8 base fiscal year and the second fiscal year after the base fiscal year;

9 (iii) for the third fiscal year after the base fiscal year
10 determined under this subparagraph, the school district's ADM adjusted
11 for school size determined under (A) of this paragraph is calculated as
12 the district's ADM adjusted for school size, plus 25 percent of the
13 difference in the district's ADM adjusted for school size between the
14 base fiscal year and the third fiscal year after the base fiscal year;

15 (F) the method established in (E) of this paragraph is available
16 to a school district for the three fiscal years following the base fiscal year
17 determined under (E) of this paragraph only if the district's ADM adjusted for
18 school size determined under (A) of this paragraph for each fiscal year is less
19 than the district's ADM adjusted for school size in the base fiscal year;

20 (G) the method established in (E) of this paragraph does not
21 apply to a decrease in the district's ADM adjusted for school size resulting
22 from a loss of enrollment that occurs as a result of a boundary change under
23 AS 29;

24 (2) the required local contribution of a city or borough school district is
25 the equivalent of a 2.65 [FOUR] mill tax levy on the full and true value of the taxable
26 real and personal property in the district as of January 1 of the second preceding fiscal
27 year, as determined by the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic
28 Development under AS 14.17.510 and AS 29.45.110, not to exceed 45 percent of a
29 district's basic need for the preceding fiscal year as determined under (1) of this
30 subsection.

31 * **Sec. 4.** AS 14.17.410(e) is amended to read:

1 (e) If a city or borough school district is established after July 1, 1998, for the
2 first three fiscal years in which the city or borough school district operates schools,
3 local contributions may be less than the amount that would otherwise be required
4 under (b)(2) of this section, except that

5 (1) in the second fiscal year of operations, local contributions must be
6 at least the greater of

7 (A) the local contributions, excluding federal impact aid, for
8 the previous fiscal year; or

9 (B) the sum of 10 percent of the district's eligible federal
10 impact aid for that year and the equivalent of a **one** [TWO] mill tax levy on the
11 full and true value of the taxable real and personal property in the city or
12 borough school district as of January 1 of the second preceding fiscal year, as
13 determined by the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic
14 Development under AS 14.17.510 and AS 29.45.110; and

15 (2) in the third year of operation, local contributions must be at least
16 the greater of

17 (A) the local contributions, excluding federal impact aid, for
18 the previous fiscal year; or

19 (B) the sum of 10 percent of the district's eligible federal
20 impact aid for that year and the equivalent of a **two** [THREE] mill tax levy on
21 the full and true value of the taxable real and personal property in the district as
22 of January 1 of the second preceding fiscal year, as determined by the
23 Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development under
24 AS 14.17.510 and AS 29.45.110.

25 * **Sec. 5.** AS 14.17.420(a) is amended to read:

26 (a) As a component of public school funding, a district is eligible for special
27 needs and **secondary** [HIGH] school vocational and technical instruction funding and
28 may be eligible for intensive services funding as follows:

29 (1) special needs funding is available to a district to assist the district
30 in providing special education, gifted and talented education, vocational education,
31 and bilingual education services to its students; a special needs funding factor of 1.20

1 shall be applied as set out in AS 14.17.410(b)(1);

2 (2) in addition to the special needs funding for which a district is
3 eligible under (1) of this subsection, a district is eligible for intensive services funding
4 for each special education student who needs and receives intensive services and is
5 enrolled on the last day of the count period; for each such student, intensive services
6 funding is equal to the intensive student count multiplied by 13;

7 (3) in addition to the special needs and intensive services funding
8 available under (1) and (2) of this subsection, **secondary** [HIGH] school vocational
9 and technical instruction funding is available to assist districts in providing vocational
10 and technical instruction to students who are enrolled in **a secondary school; a**
11 **secondary** [GRADES NINE THROUGH 12; A HIGH] school vocational and
12 technical instruction funding factor of **1.015** [1.01] shall be applied as set out in
13 AS 14.17.410(b)(1); in this paragraph, "vocational and technical instruction" excludes
14 costs associated with

15 (A) administrative expenses; and

16 (B) instruction in general literacy, mathematics, and job
17 readiness skills.

18 * **Sec. 6.** AS 14.17.440(a) is amended to read:

19 (a) Except as provided in AS 14.17.400(b), funding for state boarding schools
20 established under AS 14.16.010 includes an allocation from the public education fund
21 in an amount calculated by

22 (1) determining the ADM of state boarding schools by applying the
23 school size factor to the student count as described in AS 14.17.450;

24 (2) multiplying the number obtained under (1) of this subsection by the
25 special needs factor in AS 14.17.420(a)(1) and the **secondary school vocational and**
26 **technical instruction funding** [HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION]
27 factor set out in AS 14.17.420(a)(3) and multiplying that product by the base student
28 allocation; and

29 (3) multiplying the product determined under (2) of this subsection by
30 the district cost factor that is applicable to calculation of the state aid for the adjacent
31 school district under AS 14.17.460.

1 * **Sec. 7.** AS 14.17.490(b) is amended to read:

2 (b) A city or borough school district is not eligible for additional funding
3 authorized under (a) of this section unless, during the fiscal year in which the district
4 receives funding under (a) of this section, the district received a local contribution
5 equal to at least the equivalent of a **2.65** [FOUR] mill tax levy on the full and true
6 value of the taxable real and personal property in the district as of January 1 of the
7 second preceding fiscal year as determined by the Department of Commerce,
8 Community, and Economic Development under AS 14.17.510 and AS 29.45.110.

9 * **Sec. 8.** AS 14.17.510(c) is repealed.

10 * **Sec. 9.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
11 read:

12 **STUDENT TRANSPORTATION FUNDING ADJUSTMENT.** For fiscal years 2014
13 and 2015, funding provided to a school district under AS 14.09.010(a), as repealed and
14 reenacted in sec. 1 of this Act, shall be adjusted annually on October 1 by multiplying the
15 total amount of funding under that section for the previous fiscal year by 1.5 percent.

16 * **Sec. 10.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
17 read:

18 **PARENTS AS TEACHERS PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.** (a) The department shall
19 devise and implement a statewide parents as teachers program for the benefit of children who
20 are under five years of age. The program must provide a system of early childhood education
21 that

22 (1) is evidence-based;

23 (2) involves parents;

24 (3) is consistent with available research and best practices for high quality
25 early childhood education;

26 (4) incorporates guidelines adopted by the department for early learning that

27 (A) enhances school readiness;

28 (B) increases parent understanding of child development and
29 developmental milestones;

30 (C) reduces the incidence of child abuse and neglect;

31 (D) increases identification of health problems and developmental

1 delays through regular screenings;

2 (E) improves child health indicators, including immunization rates;

3 (F) increases parental involvement; and

4 (5) provides for effective and efficient coordination with or expansion of pre-
5 elementary education programs operating in the state, to the extent permitted by law.

6 (b) A school district shall, to the extent space is needed and available, provide for the
7 use of a room in a school at no charge to support the program established under this section.

8 (c) The department shall develop and enter into local partnerships to implement the
9 program established under this section.

10 (d) On or before January 15, 2015, the department shall provide a report to the
11 legislature on the effectiveness and participation rates of the program established in this
12 section. The report must include measures of efficiency and effectiveness that demonstrate the
13 effects of the program on school readiness.

14 (e) The program established under this section terminates on July 1, 2015.

15 (f) In this section, "department" means the Department of Education and Early
16 Development.

17 * **Sec. 11.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
18 read:

19 RETROACTIVE EFFECT. If sec. 1 of this Act takes effect after June 30, 2012, sec. 1
20 of this Act is retroactive to June 30, 2012.

21 * **Sec. 12.** Section 1 of this Act takes effect June 30, 2012.

22 * **Sec. 13.** Except as provided in sec. 12 of this Act, this Act takes effect July 1, 2012.