

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 206(EDC)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/6/10

Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act establishing a career assessment requirement in public schools; and relating to**
2 **secondary school competency testing; and providing for an effective date."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 14.03.073. Secondary student career assessment.** (a) Each school
6 district in the state shall require students in grade 11 to complete a career preparedness
7 assessment as described in (b) of this section.

8 (b) The commissioner shall select for use in the state an assessment designed
9 to measure a student's level of preparedness to make the transition to work or college.
10 The assessment must assess a student's career aptitude and readiness for postsecondary
11 education or training in the areas of

- 12 (1) applied mathematics;
13 (2) reading for information; and
14 (3) locating information.

1 (c) Subject to the availability of appropriations, the department shall

2 (1) obtain a license that enables school districts to administer the
3 assessment described in (b) of this section with no charge assessed to the district by
4 the vendor of the assessment;

5 (2) provide districts with training and support in administering the
6 assessment;

7 (3) provide a report to each student on the results of the student's
8 assessment, based on nationally recognized criteria for evaluating a student's
9 preparedness to make the transition to work or college; and

10 (4) provide to the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education
11 information needed to determine a student's eligibility for financial assistance.

12 (d) The highest level results of a student's career preparedness assessment
13 shall be displayed in summary form on the student's high school transcript.

14 * **Sec. 2.** AS 14.03.075 is repealed and reenacted to read:

15 **Sec. 14.03.075. Secondary student competency testing.** (a) Each public
16 secondary school in the state shall require students to take a competency examination
17 in the areas of reading, English, and mathematics. The department shall determine the
18 timing, form, and contents of the examination and shall score completed examinations.
19 The contents of the examination must conform to state performance standards and
20 measure college readiness. The results of the competency testing shall be included in
21 the student's transcript.

22 (b) A student who fails the examination required under this section shall be
23 retested at least once during a school year on those portions of the examination that the
24 student has not passed. A student who passes any portion of the test may not retake
25 that portion of the test. This subsection does not apply to a student who is a child with
26 a disability if the student's individualized education program team recommends that
27 the student not be retested.

28 (c) A student who is a child with a disability and who does not achieve a
29 passing score on the examination required under (a) of this section, with or without
30 accommodation, may complete an alternative assessment program required by the
31 student's individualized education program or required in the education plan

1 developed for the student under 29 U.S.C. 794. An alternative assessment program
 2 must, to the maximum extent possible, conform to state performance standards
 3 established for the competency examination required under (a) of this section. This
 4 subsection does not apply to a student unless the department determines that the
 5 student has taken and failed to pass the competency examination with or without
 6 accommodations and the department approves the student's alternative assessment
 7 program described under this subsection.

8 (d) The department shall by regulation establish uniform standards for

9 (1) pre-examination study materials; and

10 (2) procedures to be followed during administration of an examination.

11 (e) The department shall by regulation establish uniform standards for an
 12 alternative assessment program required under (c) of this section. The alternative
 13 assessment program required under (c) of this section applicable to an individual
 14 student may not be changed after February 1 of the student's junior year of study.

15 (f) In this section,

16 (1) "child with a disability" has the meaning given in AS 14.30.350;

17 (2) "individualized education program team" means a group of people
 18 that translates child assessment information regarding a child into a practical plan for
 19 specially designed instruction and delivery of services for the child, consisting of the
 20 persons necessary to qualify the team under appropriate federal regulations applicable
 21 to a child with a disability who is eligible for special education services under
 22 AS 14.30.

23 * **Sec. 3.** AS 14.03.120(d) is amended to read:

24 (d) Annually, before the date set by the district under (e) of this section, each
 25 public school shall deliver to the department for posting on the department's Internet
 26 website and provide, in a public meeting of parents, students, and community
 27 members, a report on the school's performance and the performance of the school's
 28 students. The report shall be prepared on a form prescribed by the department and
 29 must include

30 (1) information on accreditation;

31 (2) results of norm-referenced achievement tests;

1 (3) results of state standards-based assessments in reading, writing, and
2 mathematics;

3 (4) a description, including quantitative and qualitative measures, of
4 student, parent, community, and business involvement in student learning;

5 (5) a description of the school's attendance, retention, dropout, and
6 graduation rates, [INCLUDING THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF
7 STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED A DIPLOMA UNDER A WAIVER FROM THE
8 COMPETENCY EXAMINATION REQUIRED UNDER AS 14.03.075(a),] as
9 specified by the state board;

10 (6) the annual percent of enrollment change, regardless of reason, and
11 the annual percent of enrollment change due to student transfers into and out of the
12 school district;

13 (7) if Native language education is provided, a summary and
14 evaluation of the curriculum described in AS 14.30.420;

15 (8) the number and percentage of students in each school who take and
16 who successfully complete an alternative assessment program in reading, English, or
17 mathematics; and the number and percentage of pupils in each school who
18 successfully complete the alternative assessment program but who do not reach the
19 state performance standards at the competency exam level in reading, English, or
20 mathematics; a school may not report results under this paragraph unless the school
21 complies with the family educational rights and privacy requirements of 34 C.F.R. 99;

22 (9) the performance designation assigned the school under
23 AS 14.03.123 and the methodology used to assign the performance designation,
24 including the measures used and their relative weights; and

25 (10) other information concerning school performance and the
26 performance of the school's students as required by the state board in regulation.

27 * **Sec. 4.** AS 14.07.165 is amended to read:

28 **Sec. 14.07.165. Duties.** The board shall adopt

29 (1) statewide goals and require each governing body to adopt written
30 goals that are consistent with local needs;

31 (2) regulations regarding the application for and award of grants under

1 AS 14.03.125;

2 (3) regulations implementing provisions of AS 14.11.014(b);

3 (4) regulations requiring approval by the board before a charter school,
4 state boarding school, or a public school may provide domiciliary services;

5 (5) regulations implementing the secondary school student competency
6 examination provisions of AS 14.03.075 [, INCLUDING THE CRITERIA AND
7 PROCEDURE UNDER WHICH A GOVERNING BODY USES A WAIVER TO
8 GRANT A DIPLOMA TO A STUDENT; CRITERIA REGARDING GRANTING A
9 WAIVER MUST INCLUDE PROVISIONS THAT A WAIVER MAY ONLY BE
10 GRANTED FOR STUDENTS WHO ENTER THE SYSTEM LATE OR HAVE
11 RARE OR UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES MERITING A WAIVER].

12 * **Sec. 5.** Sections 2 - 4 of this Act take effect July, 1 2012.