

**HOUSE BILL NO. 356**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVE GILLHAM**

**Introduced: 2/22/22**

**Referred: Community and Regional Affairs, Education**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act establishing a character development program for public schools."**

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

3 \* **Section 1.** AS 14.30 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Article 15. Character Development Program.**

5 **Sec. 14.30.770. Character development program.** (a) Each school district  
6 shall establish and provide to students in kindergarten through grade 12 a program of  
7 character development approved by the department. The program must

8 (1) for students in kindergarten through grade 12, emphasize the  
9 following qualities:

10 (A) patriotism;

11 (B) responsibility;

12 (C) citizenship;

13 (D) kindness;

14 (E) respect for authority, life, liberty, and personal property;

15 (F) honesty;

1 (G) charity;

2 (H) self-control;

3 (I) racial, ethnic, and religious tolerance; and

4 (J) cooperation;

5 (2) for students in grades nine through 12, include instruction on  
6 workplace ethics, employment law, and life and employment-related skills, including  
7 how to

8 (A) develop leadership, interpersonal, organization, and  
9 research skills;

10 (B) create a resume, including a digital resume;

11 (C) explore career pathways;

12 (D) use state career planning resources;

13 (E) develop and practice employment interview skills;

14 (F) engage in conflict resolution;

15 (G) manage stress and expectations; and

16 (H) develop skills to enable students to become more resilient  
17 and self-motivated; and

18 (3) for students in grades 11 and 12, include instruction on voting  
19 using the primary and general election ballots.

20 (b) Before curriculum, literature, or materials related to a character  
21 development program established under (a) of this section may be used in a class or  
22 program or distributed in a school, the curriculum, literature, or materials must be  
23 approved by the department.

24 (c) In this section, "school district" has the meaning given in AS 14.30.350.