



Contents

HB 7 – Interactive Computer Service Content Restrict	4
HB 15 – Temporary Permits & Licenses; Military License	5
HB 17 – Discrimination: Gender ID; Sexual Orientation	5
HB 18 – Teachers: National Board Certification	5
HB 19 – Limited Teacher Certificates; Languages	6
HB 24 – School Employee Breaks: Nursing Mothers	7
HB 25 – Public Schools: Social/Emotional Learning	7
HB 48 – Alaska Performance Scholarship; Eligibility	8
HB 49 – Appropriation: Early Literacy Programs	8
HB 53 – Military Children School Residency Waiver	8
HB 57 – Funds Subject to CBR Sweep Provision	9
HB 60 – Public Schools: Mental Health Education	10
HB 67 – Approp: K-12 Acad. Recovery from Covid-19	10
HB 78 – Funding for Correspondence Programs	11
HB 88 – Equal Pay & Minimum Wage Act	11
HB 93 – G.O. Bonds: State Infrastructure Projects	11
HB 108 – Concurrent Secondary & Trade School	12
HB 129 – Alaska Performance Scholarship Amount	13
HB 132 – School Apprenticeship Programs; Tax Credits	13
HB 147 – Rural Definition Teacher Education Loan Program	15
HB 164 – Early Education Programs; Reading; Virtual Education	15
HB 169 – Appropriation: Education; Pupil Transportation	16
HB 173 – School Climate & Connectedness	17
HB 189 – Employment Tax for Education	18

HB 191 – School District Budgets; Tenured Non-retention	18
HB 220 – Retirement Systems; Defined Benefit Options	19
HB 223 – Repealing Funds, Accounts, & Programs	19
HB 228 – Public Schools; Nondiscrimination; Tenets	19
HB 229 – Higher Education Investment Fund	20
HB 230 – Designate Sex for School-Sponsored Sports	20
HB 238 – Vaccine Objections; Minors	20
HB 239 – Contracts: Prohibit Israel Discrimination.....	20
HB 240 – Early Education Programs	21
HB 244 – School District Boundary Maps.....	21
HB 250 – Appropriation: Supplemental; Fund Capitalization & Transfer.....	21
HB 259 – Permanent Fund Dividend; 25/75 POMV Split	21
HB 262 – Prohibit State Assets Covid-19 Vaccination.....	22
HB 263 – Prohibit Covid-19 Vaccine Mandate	22
HB 266 – Information Regarding Vaccines	23
HB 272 – Increase Base Student Allocation	23
HB 273 – Increase Base Student Allocation Inflation	23
HB 274 – Constitutional Rights; Covid Vaccine.....	23
HB 275 – Vaccine Requirements for School Children.....	24
HB 278 – Covid-19 Vaccination Equivalent	24
HB 280 – School ADM Excluding Employee Children.....	24
HB 281 – FY23 Operating Budget.....	24
HB 282 – FY23 Mental Health Budget	25
HB 284 – FY22 Supplemental Budget.....	26
HB 300 – Approp: Supplemental; Capital; Amend	26
HJR 20 – Constitutional Amendment: Education Funding.....	27
SB 6 – RIP for Public Employees/Teachers	27
SB 8 – Pre-K/Elementary Education Programs/Funding; Reading	28
SB 15 – Open Meetings Act; Penalty	28
SB 16 – Equal Pay/Living Wage Act; Sex Discrimination	30
SB 17 – Energy Efficiency & Policy: Public Buildings	30
SB 18 – Class Size Reduction Grant Program	31

SB 20 – Out Of State Teacher Reciprocity	31
SB 32 – College Credit For High School Students	32
SB 34 – State-Tribal Education Compact Schools	33
SB 36 – University of Alaska Regents Reporting Requirements	34
SB 37 – Teachers & Public Employees Retirement Plans	34
SB 42 – Virtual and Early Education; Reading	35
SB 58 – Funding for Correspondence Programs	35
SB 72 – Secondary School Civics Education	36
SB 74 – G.O. Bonds: State Infrastructure Projects	38
SB 80 – Public Schools: Mental Health Education	39
SB 111 – Early Education; Reading Intervention	40
SB 112 – Student Transportation Planning	41
SB 119 – Oath of Office	42
SB 140 – Designate Sex for School-Sponsored Sports	42
SB 156 – Prohibit Covid-19 Vaccine Discrimination	42
SB 157 – Health & Personal Safety Education	43
SB 162 – FY23 Operating Budget	43
SB 163 – FY23 Mental Health Budget	44
SB 165 – FY22 Supplemental Budget	44
SB 174 – Allow Natural Hairstyles	44
SB 176 – Approp: Supplemental; Capital; Amend	45
SJR 10 – Constitutional Amendment: In-Person Public Education	45

HB 7 – Interactive Computer Service Content Restrict

1/8/2019 – Profile Released; by Rep. Rauscher

2/18/2021 – Introduced; Referred to the House State Affairs, Labor & Commerce, and Judiciary Committees

According to the title of the bill, [HB 7](#) relates to “*restrictions placed on users of interactive computer services based on content or viewpoint, and adding unlawful acts to the Alaska Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Act.*” [“[Interactive computer service](#) is defined as, “*any information service, system, or access software provider that provides or enables computer access by multiple users to a computer server, including specifically a service or system that provides access to the Internet and such systems operated or services offered by libraries or educational institutions.”]*

Under HB 7, interactive computer services that represent themselves as having neutral, impartial, or nonbiased content will be prohibited from:

- Blocking the user’s content
- Censoring the user’s content
- Banning the user from using the service
- Removing the user’s content
- Blocking or partially blocking the user or the user’s content in a way that is not readily apparent to the user
- Removing the user from a social media platform
- Requiring the viewer to take more steps to view the user’s content than are required to view the content from other users
- Removing the ability of the user’s content to earn advertising income
- Otherwise restricting the speech or content of the user on the service

New Information (1/15/2021): From a 1/13/2021 [interview](#) with Jeff Kosseff, assistant professor of cybersecurity law at the United States Naval Academy, on internet speech and the moderation of social media. The interview was largely about [47 U.S. Code Section 230](#). In the interview, Professor Kosseff stated:

“So there are a lot of things Section 230 is not, but the most important thing is that Section 230 and the First Amendment are different. And there are many things that the First Amendment protects and has always protected. And suddenly it is being blamed on Section 230. Most importantly, the ability of a private party to decide whose speech they want to distribute. That is something that is protected by the First Amendment regardless of whether we have Section 230....And that gets to sort of my next big pet peeve about the current debate, in that I don’t, you don’t, nobody has a First Amendment right to force Twitter or Facebook or any platform to carry their speech.”

HB 15 – Temporary Permits & Licenses; Military License

1/8/2019 – Prefile Released; by Reps. Thompson, Prax, Nelson, McCabe

2/18/2021 – Introduced; Referred to the House Labor & Commerce and Education Committees

[HB 15](#) requires the Dept. of Education & Early Development to issue preliminary teacher's certificates, within 30 days of receipt of a complete application, to active duty members of the armed forces or a spouse of an active duty member who meets the requirements of [AS 14.20.015](#).

HB 15 also allows for temporary permits and licenses for teachers and teacher's aides who are occupational therapists or teachers who are students enrolled in accredited occupational therapy programs. [*This section of the bill is a little complicated for me, so you should see the bill for details.*]

HB 17 – Discrimination: Gender ID; Sexual Orientation

2/18/2021 – Prefile Released; by Reps. Josephson, Hopkins, Tarr, Hannan, Drummond Schrage, Spohnholz, Kreiss-Tomkins, Story, Snyder, Fields

2/18/2021 – Introduced; Referred to the House State Affairs and Judiciary Committees

5/5/2021 – House State Affairs Committee referral moved to after the Judiciary Committee

2/9/2022 – Heard and held in the House Judiciary Committee

[HB 17](#) prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender identification, gender expression, or sexual orientation, including by the state and political subdivisions of the state.

HB 17 defines gender identity or expression as, “*having or being perceived as having or expressing a gender, self-image, appearance, or behavior that is different from that traditionally associated with the sex assigned to that person at birth.*”

HB 18 – Teachers: National Board Certification

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

[Documents](#)

2/18/2021 – Prefile Released; by Rep. Kreiss-Tomkins

2/18/2021 – Introduced; Referred to the House State Affairs and Education Committees

3/2/2021 – Heard and held in the House State Affairs Committee

3/4/2021 – Heard and held in the House State Affairs Committee; public testimony

3/9/2021 – Heard in and moved from the House State Affairs Committee; now in the House Education Committee

4/30/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

5/10/20201 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee; invited & public testimony~~

1/21/2022 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

1/26/2022 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

2/4/2022 – Heard in and moved from the House Education Committee

[HB 18](#) requires public schools to display in a prominent location the name of each teacher at that school who has achieved national board certification. It is the goal of the legislature that by the year 2025 at least four percent of public school teachers in the state will have achieved national board certification.

HB 19 – Limited Teacher Certificates; Languages

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

[Documents](#)

1/8/2019 – Profile Released; by Reps. Kreiss-Tomkins, Fields, Drummond, Zulkosky, Story, Tarr, Patkotak

2/18/2021 – Introduced; Referred to the House Education and Labor & Commerce Committees

4/9/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

4/12/2021 – Finance Committee referral replaces the Labor & Commerce Committee referral

4/12/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

4/16/2021 – Heard in and moved from the House Education Committee; committee substitute

5/3/2021 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee; introduction of the bill to the committee and public testimony

5/6/2021 – Heard in and moved from the House Finance Committee; the committee did not make any changes to the bill

5/14/2021 – Passed the house by a vote of 37 yeas, 2 excused, 1 absent

5/17/2021 – Read for the first time in the senate and referred to the Senate Education, Labor & Commerce, and Finance Committees

1/21/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

1/26/2022 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Education Committee

2/2/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee

[HB 19](#) allows the Dept. of Education & Early Development to issue limited language immersion teacher certificates, valid only in the area of expertise for which it is issued, to teach students enrolled in a language immersion program. See [the bill](#) for restrictions and requirements.

4/16/2021: An amendment was adopted in the House Education Committee that removes Section (f). Rep. Zulkosky said the language is looking to resolve an issue that

doesn't exist: there are already safety measures in place that will preclude this type of certificate from being misused, since a school board must submit a request to the Dept. of Education & Early Development. She thinks world language teachers would be precluded from being able to misuse this certificate type, and that this certificate will only be used for indigenous language. She said the focus of this bill is not on world languages, but on Alaska indigenous languages. [*The full title of HB 19 is, "An Act relating to instruction in a language other than English, and establishing limited language immersion teacher certificates." Nowhere in the bill does it refer either to "world languages" or to "indigenous languages" now that Section (f) has been removed.*]

HB 24 – School Employee Breaks: Nursing Mothers

1/18/2021 – Prefile Released; by Rep. Hopkins, Tarr, Snyder

2/18/2021 – Introduced; Referred to the Education and Labor & Commerce Committees

[HB 24](#) requires school districts to give nursing mothers reasonable break times and a location to express milk for one year after giving birth. School districts are not required to pay teachers while they are on break, except as may be otherwise required by contract.

School districts are not required to comply with the provisions in HB 24 if the district employs fewer than 50 people and if the difficulty and expense of meeting the requirements are significant in relation to the district's financial resources and would cause the district undue financial hardship.

HB 25 – Public Schools: Social/Emotional Learning

[Minutes, Audio, & Video Documents](#)

2/18/2021 – Prefile Released; by Reps. Hopkins, Spohnholz, Zulkosky, Story

2/18/2021 – Introduced; Referred to the House Education and State Affairs Committees

3/29/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

4/12/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; invited & public testimony

4/14/2021 – Heard in and moved from the House Education Committee; no changes were made to the bill; now in the House State Affairs Committee

4/29/2021 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House State Affairs Committee~~

[HB 25](#) requires the Dept. of Education & Early Development State Board to adopt statewide standards for instruction in social-emotional learning.

HB 48 – Alaska Performance Scholarship; Eligibility

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

[Documents](#)

2/18/2021 – Prefile Released; by Reps. Story, Fields, Hopkins

2/18/2021 – Introduced; Referred to the House Education and Finance Committees

4/12/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

4/28/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

[HB 48](#) allows Alaska Performance Scholarships to be awarded to applicants who've completed a core academic curriculum that includes career and technical education.

HB 49 – Appropriation: Early Literacy Programs

2/18/2021 – Prefile Released; by Rep. Story

2/18/2021 – Introduced; Referred to the House Education and Finance Committees

[HB 49](#) appropriates \$20,225,000 from the general fund for early literacy programs, to be distributed to school districts based on adjusted average daily membership. The money would be distributed over two fiscal years:

- \$10 million in FY22
- \$10,225,000 in FY23

HB 49 requires school districts to report how they used the money to the Dept. of Education & Early Development by January 15, 2022. DEED would then be required to report that information to the legislature by January 31, 2022.

HB 53 – Military Children School Residency Waiver

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

[Documents](#)

2/18/2021 – Prefile Released; by Reps. McCarty, Rauscher, Tuck, Nelson, Tarr, Spohnholz, Josephson

2/18/2021 – Introduced; Referred to the House Military & Veterans' Affairs and Education Committees

3/4/2021 – Heard and held in the House Military & Veterans' Affairs Committee

3/9/2021 – Heard in and moved from the House Military & Veterans' Affairs Committee with a committee substitute; public testimony

4/28/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

5/3/2021 – Heard in and moved from the House Education Committee

5/12/2021 – Passed the house by a vote of 40 yeas; amendments were adopted that provide for an immediate effective date, and that add armories to the list of military installations.

5/14/2021 – HB 53 was read for the first time in the senate and referred to the Senate Education Committee

1/21/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

1/26/2022 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Education Committee

[HB 53](#) requires school districts to consider students to be a resident of the district and admit the student to a public school in the district if a parent or guardian of the student is serving as an active duty member of the armed forces or a member of the National Guard and is transferred or pending transfer to a military installation in the state.

3/9/2021: The House Military & Veterans' Affairs Committee substitute for HB 53 changes the time period in which parents are required to give school districts proof of residency after a child begins school from within 10 days of the first day of attendance to within 30 days of the first day of attendance.

HB 57 – Funds Subject to CBR Sweep Provision

[Minutes, Audio, & Video Documents](#)

1/15/2021 – Prefile released; by Reps. Josephson, Kreiss-Tomkins

2/18/2021 – Introduced; Referred to the House Judiciary and Finance Committees

3/17/2021 – Heard and held in the House Judiciary Committee

3/19/2021 – Heard and held in the House Judiciary Committee; public testimony

3/29/2021 – Heard and held in the House Judiciary Committee; public testimony

4/5/2021 – Heard in and moved from the House Judiciary Committee; now in the House Finance Committee

5/18/2021 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee; public testimony

[HB 57](#) exempts numerous funds from the constitutional requirement to be swept into the Constitutional Budget Reserve at the end of the fiscal year. Included in the list of funds to be exempt are:

- The Fund for Improvement of School Performance
- The Curriculum Improvement and Best Practices Fund
- The School Construction Grant Fund
- The Major Maintenance Grant Fund
- The Public Education Fund
- The Memorial Education Revolving Loan Fund

See the [PowerPoint](#) for HB 57 for further explanation on the bill. Hearings on this bill won't be covered, but I'll keep you updated on it.

HB 60 – Public Schools: Mental Health Education

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

[Documents](#)

2/18/2021 – Prefile Released; by Reps. Claman, Fields, Zulkosky, Spohnholz, McCarty, Story, Schlage

2/18/2021 – Introduced; Referred to the Education and Finance Committees

3/31/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

4/16/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; invited & public testimony

4/21/2021 – Heard in and moved from the House Education Committee with a committee substitute

5/21/2021 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Finance Committee~~

2/10/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee

[HB 60](#) directs the Dept. of Education & Early Development to develop guidelines for instruction in mental health, and encourages school districts to include mental health in their health education programs. In developing guidelines, DEED must consult with the Dept. of Health & Social Services and representatives of national and state mental health organizations.

4/21/2021: This language was in the original version of the bill, but was taken out in the House Education Committee substitute:

“Health guidelines must provide standards for instruction in mental health and shall be developed in consultation with the Department of Health and Social Services and representatives of national and state mental health organizations.”

This language is new language in the House Education Committee substitute:

“Guidelines for developmentally appropriate instruction in mental health shall be developed in consultation with the Department of Health and Social Services, regional tribal health organizations, and representatives of national and state mental health organizations.”

HB 67 – Approp: K-12 Acad. Recovery from Covid-19

2/18/2021 – Prefile Released; by Reps. Story, Drummond

2/18/2021 – Introduced; Referred to the House Education and Finance Committees

[HB 67](#) makes an appropriation of \$20 million from the general fund to school districts to support student recovery from academic losses as a result of COVID-19. The money will be distributed as grants to school districts based on the adjusted average daily membership.

School districts will be required to report to the Dept. of Education & Early Development by January 15, 2022 how they used the funds, and DEED will be required to report that information to the legislature by January 31, 2022.

HB 78 – Funding for Correspondence Programs

2/18/2021 – Introduced; by the Rules Committee at the request of the Governor; referred to the House Education and Finance Committee

[HB 78](#) would increase state funding for correspondence students from 90 percent of average daily membership (ADM) to 100 percent. [SB 58](#) is the senate version of the bill. In addition, the ADM of correspondence students would be included in the funding formula before the multipliers for special needs students and secondary vocational and technical instruction are applied to the ADM of the district.

The estimated annual cost of HB 78 is \$35,544,300. Page 3 of [Fiscal Note 1](#) shows a breakdown of how much additional funding each school district will receive.

HB 88 – Equal Pay & Minimum Wage Act

2/18/2021 – Introduced; by Reps. Tarr, Spohnholz, Hopkins, Snyder, Drummond; referred to the House State Affairs and Labor & Commerce Committees

[HB 88](#) increases the minimum wage to \$15 an hour, effective January 1, 2022, and is adjusted annually for inflation after that.

HB 93 – G.O. Bonds: State Infrastructure Projects

[Minutes, Audio, & Video Documents](#)

2/18/2021 – Introduced; by the House Rules Committee at the request of the Governor; referred to the House Finance Committee

3/30/2021 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee

[HB 93](#) relates to the issuance of general obligation bonds for state infrastructure projects. [SB 74](#) is the senate version of the bill. The bill totals \$356,405,952 and requires voter approval. The election would occur 90 to 120 days after adjournment of the first regular session of this legislature.

[Fiscal Note 2](#) states that of the \$356,405,952 that HB 93 would cost, \$354,632,788 is for project costs, while \$1,773,164 is for costs associated with issuing the bonds. The fiscal note analysis states:

“This fiscal note assumes that the proposed projects will be eligible for tax-exempt financing. There may be adjustments to this assumption required after the

state's bond counsel reviews the project list. To the extent projects are not tax-exempt eligible, financing costs will increase to Alternative Minimum Tax or taxable rates. Two key limits associated with tax-exempt bond issues are that an issuer must be able to track all funds, including any investment earnings on unspent proceeds, to final expenditure on an allowed public capital project and that all funds resulting from the bond issuance are expended within three years of the bond sale. Due to these limitations it is anticipated that the authorization would require careful state oversight of the proposed municipal projects and potentially require multiple bond issues. This fiscal note assumes a single bond sale that would close in July 2021 to provide funding as quickly as possible.”

Education projects in HB 93 are ([page 2](#)):

- \$9 million for Houston Middle School replacement
- \$25 million for the Major Maintenance Grant Fund for School Major Maintenance
- \$7,882,000 for Mt. Edgecumbe High School repairs

The projects on the Dept. of Education & Early Development’s most recent School Major Maintenance Grant Fund list are [here](#). There are 108 projects on the list, with a total state share of \$ \$187,285,413. They are listed in order of priority.

Replacement of Houston Middle School is not on DEED’s [School Construction Grant Fund list](#). There are 17 projects on that list, with a total state share of \$162,305,916. Houston Middle School was destroyed in the November 30, 2018 earthquake that hit southcentral Alaska.

HB 108 – Concurrent Secondary & Trade School

[Minutes, Audio, & Video Documents](#)

2/22/20201 – Introduced; by Reps. McCarty, Tuck, McKay, Johnson, Shaw, Thompson, LeBon, Cronk, Gillham, Kurka, Rasmussen, Kreiss-Tomkins, Vance, Snyder, Drummond; referred to the House Education, Labor & Commerce, and Finance Committees

4/9/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

[HB 108](#) adds a new clause to AS 14.07.020(a) that states the Dept. of Education & Early Development shall “*provide opportunities to participate in concurrent vocational education, training, and on-the-job trade experience programs to students over 14 years of age enrolled in public secondary schools.*”

HB 108 adds six new sections under AS 14.35 that establish a new state policy. The

policy states:

“It is the policy of this state to provide public secondary school students over 14 years of age the opportunity to participate in concurrent vocational education, training, and on-the-job trade experience programs from nonsectarian agencies providing industry-standard instruction.”

One section under the new policy requires DEED to negotiate contracts with agencies providing industry-standard instruction and certifications to offer concurrent vocational education, training, and on-the-job trade experience programs for students enrolled in a public secondary school. See [the bill](#) for program requirements. One of the requirements of the programs is that they meet industry standards for apprenticeship or journeyman or equivalent certification, based on agency accredited national, regional, or programmatic instruction standards.

The bill requires DEED to enroll students in programs who are over 14 years of age who submit an application. If there is not enough room in a program for all students who apply, then students shall be selected for the program by random drawing. Schools are required to pay any tuition for the program. [*This U.S. Dept. of Labor [webpage](#) says, “Applicants for apprenticeship programs must be at least 16 years old and meet the program sponsor’s qualifications.”*]

HB 129 – Alaska Performance Scholarship Amount

3/8/2021 – Introduced; by Rep. Fields; referred to the House Education and Finance Committees

[HB 129](#) changes the amount of the Alaska Performance Scholarship award to:

- First award level: an amount equal to the average annual cost of resident tuition and fees at the University of Alaska (currently \$4,755)
- Second award level: an amount equal to 75 percent of the average annual cost of resident tuition and fees at the University of Alaska (currently \$3,566)
- Third award level: an amount equal to 50 percent of the average annual cost of resident tuition and fees at the University of Alaska (currently \$2,378)

HB 132 – School Apprenticeship Programs; Tax Credits

[Minutes, Audio, & Video Documents](#)

3/8/2021 – Introduced; by the House Labor & Commerce Committee; referred to the House Labor & Commerce, Education, and Finance Committees

3/15/2021 – Heard and held in the House Labor & Commerce Committee

3/22/2021 – Heard in and moved from the House Labor & Commerce Committee; invited and public testimony

4/9/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee
4/19/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; public testimony
4/23/2021 – Heard in and moved from the House Education Committee with a committee substitute
5/6/2021 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee
5/7/2021 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee
5/14/2021 – Heard in and moved from the House Finance Committee
5/19/2021 – Passed the house by a vote of 29 yeas, 11 nays; transmitted to the senate but not yet referred to committees
1/18/2022 – Read for the first time in the Senate and referred to the Education, Labor & Commerce, and Finance Committees

The full title of [HB 132](#) is, “*An Act relating to technical education and apprenticeships; relating to concurrent vocational education, training, and on-the-job trade experience programs for students enrolled in public secondary schools; relating to child labor; and providing for an effective date.*”

Some of the documents for HB 132 are:

- [Sponsor Statement](#)
- [Sectional Analysis](#)
- [PowerPoint Presentation](#)

According to the Sponsor Statement, HB 132:

- Establishes tax credits for employers participating in Registered Apprenticeship.
- Strengthens collaboration between the Departments of Labor and Education to support apprenticeship and other career and technical education programs.
- Encourages provision of dual credit so high school students in CTE programs and apprentices have more opportunities to earn college credit while pursuing their careers.

2/24/2021: Staff to House Labor & Commerce Committee Chair Zack Fields said in an email that, “The changes eliminated Rep. McCarty’s [HB 108](#), made the tax credit refundable, and specified language so that it only [applies] to ‘certified apprenticeship’ programs. At this point, the bill expands apprenticeship programs, school to apprenticeship, dual credit, & CTE for Alaskan students.”

4/9/2021: There is a brief [PowerPoint](#) in BASIS that explains HB 132. The intent is to expand apprenticeships and career and technical education (CTE), and to help the state capture and capitalize on federal apprenticeship grants. HB 132 establishes a \$1,000 per apprentice employer tax credit, with an allowable tax credit of \$1,500 for veterans. It directs the Dept. of Labor & Workforce Development and the Dept. of Education &

Early Development to collaborate on technical and financial support. It directs the University of Alaska to explore ways to expand dual credit and college credit for CTE courses and apprenticeships. The PowerPoint states that in summary, HB 132 intends to:

- Incentivize employer participation,
- Encourage cross-departmental collaboration,
- Support school districts, and
- Expand dual credit and post-secondary pathways.

HB 147 – Rural Definition Teacher Education Loan Program

3/24/2021 – Introduced; by Reps. Zulkosky, Snyder; referred to the House Education and Finance Committees

HB 147 changes the definition of “rural community” for the Teacher Education Loan Program. The language in the bill is (with current language struck out and new language bolded):

“ ‘rural’ means a community ~~with a population of 5,500 or less~~ that is not connected by a road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks **or a community** with a population of 1,500 or less that is connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks.”

HB 164 – Early Education Programs; Reading; Virtual Education

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

[Documents](#)

4/7/2021 – Introduced; by Reps. Tuck, Drummond, Story; referred to the House Education and Finance Committees

4/21/2021 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee~~

4/23/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

4/26/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

4/30/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

5/3/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; continuation of review of reading intervention provisions in the bill

5/5/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; review of early education provisions in the bill

5/6/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; public testimony

5/7/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; review of virtual education portions of bill and fiscal notes

5/8/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; public testimony

5/12/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; fiscal note review and beginning of consideration of amendments

5/14/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; consideration of amendments

5/17/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; consideration of amendments
5/19/2021 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee~~
1/28/2022 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee
1/21/2022 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee~~
1/28/2022 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee
1/31/2022 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee
2/2/2022 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee
2/4/2022 – Scheduled but not heard in the House Education Committee

[HB 164](#) is the house companion bill to [SB 8](#). According to BASIS, it is also similar to [SB 42](#) and [SB 111](#). The full title of HB 164 is:

“An Act relating to early education programs provided by school districts; relating to school age eligibility; relating to early education programs; establishing a parents as teachers program; relating to the duties of the Department of Education and Early Development; relating to certification of teachers; establishing a reading intervention program for public school students enrolled in grades kindergarten through three; establishing a reading program in the Department of Education and Early Development; relating to a virtual education consortium; and providing for an effective date.”

4/23/2021: The House Education Committee adopted a committee substitute that makes HB 164 identical to the most recent version of [SB 111](#). See the new [Sectional Analysis](#) for details on what’s in the most recent versions of HB 164 and SB 111, plus the [separate Sectional Analysis](#) for Sections 14 and 35. [The fiscal notes for SB 111](#) are the correct ones to look at for HB 164.

HB 169 – Appropriation: Education; Pupil Transportation

[Minutes, Audio, & Video Documents](#)

4/9/2021 – Introduced; by the House Finance Committee; referred to the House Finance Committee
4/14/2021 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee
4/19/2021 – Heard in and moved from the House Finance Committee; public testimony
4/21/2021 – Read for the second time in the House
4/22/2021 – Passed the House by a vote of 26 yeas, 14 nays; effective date adopted by a vote of 36 yeas, 4 nays; transmitted to the senate
4/23/2021 – Read for the first time in the Senate and referred to the Senate Finance Committee
5/5/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee; introduction of bill to the committee

[HB 169](#) deposits full funding for the foundation formula and pupil transportation into the public education fund for FY22. The intent of HB 169 is to pass the bill as soon as possible and early fund education so that school districts don't have to wait until the regular FY22 budget is passed to know what their state funding will be.

4/16/2021: Reps. Stutes and Tuck said in a press availability that their intent is to pass HB 169 as soon as possible and transmit it to the senate for consideration. The bill has bipartisan support.

4/21/2021: Amended on the House floor by an amendment by Rep. Rasmussen to also forward fund education for FY23, in addition to early funding education for FY22.

4/22/2021: [HB 169](#) (early fund education for FY22 and forward fund for FY23) passed the House by a vote of 26 yeas, 14 nays. Here's a link to the [House Journal](#), which has the vote. Here's a link to the Gavel to Gavel [recording](#).

HB 173 – School Climate & Connectedness

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

[Documents](#)

4/14/2021 – Introduced; by Rep Tarr; referred to the House Education and Finance Committees

5/7/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

According to a statement from the House Majority, [HB 173](#):

“...is the culmination of five years of collaboration with educators across the state and would require school districts to come up with plans to improve school climate and connectedness. This plan would necessitate the integration of concepts such as social-emotional learning, trauma-informed teaching practices, cultural competence and integration of Indigenous values, restorative practices for conflict management, and a tiered approach to behavioral interventions.

HB 173 would also create a statewide School Climate and Connectedness Improvement Committee, which would support districts in the creation of school climate and connectedness plans. The committee would be appointed by the governor and consist of representatives from many different stakeholder groups, including superintendents, K-12 teachers, parents of K-12 students, juvenile justice and youth services, school social workers, and school counselors. Additionally, the Committee would have representation from all geographic regions of the state and across grade levels. This would ensure that the committee reflects the diversity of students and school districts in Alaska.”

See the [Sponsor Statement](#) and the one-page [Sectional Analysis](#) for more details on what HB 173 would do.

HB 189 – Employment Tax for Education

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

[Documents](#)

4/26/2021 – Introduced; by the House Ways & Means Committee; referred to the House Ways & Means, Education, and Finance Committees

5/1/2021 – Heard and held in the House Ways & Means Committee

5/4/2021 – Heard in and moved from the House Ways & Means Committee with a committee substitute; invited & public testimony

5/7/2021 – House Education Committee referral removed; now in the House Finance Committee

5/20/2021 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Finance Committee~~

9/13/2021 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee

[HB 189](#) is an income tax based on five different income levels. The schedule in the bill is a tax of:

- \$50 for people with incomes less than \$20,000 annually
- \$100 for people with incomes between \$20,000 and \$49,999.99 annually
- \$200 for people with incomes between \$50,000 and \$99,999.99 annually
- \$300 for people with incomes between \$100,000 and \$499,999.99 annually
- \$500 for people with incomes of \$500,000 or higher

5/1/2021: There is now a [Sponsor Statement](#), a [Sectional Analysis](#), and a [fiscal note](#) posted in BASIS. The fiscal note states that the tax in HB 189 would collect about \$65 million to \$66 million annually, and would require five new positions at the Dept. of Revenue.

5/4/2021 – The House Ways & Means Committee adopted a committee substitute that changed the tax schedule in the bill to:

- \$25 for people with incomes of less than \$30,000 annually
- \$100 for people with incomes of \$30,000 or more, but less than \$60,000 annually
- \$200 for people with incomes of \$60,000 or more, but less than \$90,000 annually
- \$400 for people with incomes of \$90,000 or more, but less than \$120,000 annually
- \$600 for people with incomes of \$120,000 or more annually

HB 191 – School District Budgets; Tenured Non-retention

4/28/2021 – Introduced; by Reps. Gillham, Kaufman, Vance, McCabe, Carpenter; referred to the House Education and Finance Committees

[HB 191](#) amends [AS 14.14.060\(c\)](#), adding a clause that states:

“If the legislature has not yet appropriated an amount to fund public education for the following school year, the borough school board shall develop the budget for the following school year based on the amount the legislature appropriated to fund public education in the current school year.”

HB 220 – Retirement Systems; Defined Benefit Options

5/19/2021 – Introduced; by Reps. Hopkins, Fields, Drummond, Story, Snyder, Schrage, Ortiz, Spohnholz, Hannan, Tarr, Claman, Edgmon; referred to the Labor & Commerce and Finance Committees

11/8/2021 – Heard and held in the House Labor & Commerce Committee

1/19/2022 – Heard and held in the House Labor & Commerce Committee; public testimony

1/26/2022 – Heard in and moved from the House Labor & Commerce Committee

[HB 220](#) allows PERS and TRS employees the opportunity to participate in a defined benefit retirement plan.

HB 223 – Repealing Funds, Accounts, & Programs

1/7/2022 – Prefile released; by Rep. Kaufman

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Ways & Means and Finance Committees

[HB 223](#) would repeal the Curriculum Improvement and Best Practices Fund, among other funds. The fund was created in 2018, is dormant, and has never been funded.

HB 228 – Public Schools; Nondiscrimination; Tenets

1/7/2022 – Prefile released; by Reps. McKay, Carpenter, Vance

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Education and Judiciary Committees

[HB 228](#) states that *“A public school may not direct or otherwise compel a student to personally affirm, adopt, or adhere to, or provide a course of instruction or unit of study that directs or otherwise compels a student to affirm, adopt, or adhere to, the following tenets:*

- *A given sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, or national origin is inherently superior or inferior;*
- *An individual should be treated adversely based on the individual’s sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, or national origin;*
- *An individual, by virtue of the individual’s sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, or national origin, is inherently responsible for actions committed in the past by other members of the same sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, or national origin.*

- *A public school may not provide a course of instruction or unity of study that teaches, the curriculum described by the New York Times’ 1619 project.”*

HB 229 – Higher Education Investment Fund

1/7/2022 – Prefile released; by Reps. Josephson, Drummond, Story, Schrage
 1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Education and Finance Committees
 2/2/2022 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee~~
 2/7/2022 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; invited & public testimony

2/11/2022 – Heard in and moved from the House Education Committee

[HB 229](#) makes the Higher Education Investment Fund exempt from being swept into the Constitutional Budget Reserve Fund by making it an endowment within the Alaska Student Loan Corporation.

HB 230 – Designate Sex for School-Sponsored Sports

1/7/2022 – Prefile released; by Reps. McKay, Rauscher, Rasmussen, Vance
 1/22/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Education and Judiciary Committees

[HB 230](#) specifies that public schools, and private schools whose teams compete against a public school, must designate each school sponsored athletic team or sport as male/men’s/boys, female/women’s/girls, or co-educational. Students who participate on a team designated as female/women’s/girls “*must be female, based on the participant’s biological sex.*” HB 230 allows for lawsuits against schools that violate HB 230.

HB 238 – Vaccine Objections; Minors

1/7/2022 – Prefile released; by Reps. Gillham, Carpenter
 1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the State Affairs and Labor & Commerce Committees

[HB 238](#) states, “*A minor child whose parent or guardian has submitted a signed statement to school officials stating their objections on religious, medical, or philosophical grounds to immunization requirements are exempt from those requirements.*”

In addition, the bill states that, “*a business, an employer, a state agency, a municipality, the University of Alaska, or a school district may not require an individual [including employees] to be vaccinated against a specific disease if the individual objects based on religious, medical, or philosophical grounds.*”

HB 239 – Contracts: Prohibit Israel Discrimination

1/7/2022 – Prefile released; by Reps. Vance, McCarty

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Labor & Commerce, State Affairs, and Judiciary Committees

[HB 239](#) prohibits public agencies, including school districts, from limiting business relations with Israel or a person doing business with Israel,

HB 240 – Early Education Programs

1/7/2022 – Prefile released; by Reps. Schrage, Spohnholz

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Education and Finance Committees

[HB 240](#) includes Pre-K in the foundation formula for students who are at least four years old at the beginning of the school year. Head Start programs are also included.

The bill also requires a report on “*the effectiveness and participation rates of the parents as teachers program.*” It requires the Dept. of Education & Early Development to design and implement a statewide parents as teachers program.

HB 240 requires the Dept. of Education & Early Development to provide training and assistance to develop and improve early education programs that comply with standards adopted by the board. There are provisions for funding for Pre-K of at least \$3 million annually, unless otherwise appropriated by the legislature. There are other provisions regarding details of Pre-K programs. See the bill for more details.

HB 244 – School District Boundary Maps

1/7/2022 – Prefile released; by Rep. Gillham

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Education and Finance Committees

[HB 244](#) requires school districts and municipalities to distribute school district boundary maps to parents. The bill also requires the Dept. of Education & Early Development to post maps on its website.

HB 250 – Appropriation: Supplemental; Fund Capitalization & Transfer

1/7/2022 – Prefile released; by Rep. Wool

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Finance Committee

[HB 250](#) appropriates funding for community assistance, school bond debt reimbursement, the REAA fund, the oil and gas tax credit fund, and the constitutional budget reserve fund for FY22. These items are generally funded through the operating budget, but HB 250 is a stand-alone bill that would fund these items separately.

HB 259 – Permanent Fund Dividend; 25/75 POMV Split

1/7/2022 – Prefile released; by Reps. Spohnholz, Drummond

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Education, Ways & Means, and Finance Committees

2/4/2022 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

2/14/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee

2/15/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the House Ways & Means Committee; pending referral

2/17/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the House Ways & Means Committee; pending referral

[HB 259](#) creates a funding stream for the foundation formula and pupil transportation by splitting the Permanent Fund Earnings Reserve percent of market value (POMV) draw with:

- 25 percent for Permanent Fund dividends
- 75 percent for government
 - 50 percent of that will go into the general fund
 - 50 percent of it will go to funding K-12

If the percentage allocated to education does not fully fund the foundation formula, the remaining need will be met with UGF (unrestricted general funds). If the percentage allocated to education exceeds the amount required by the foundation formula, the excess will be distributed to school districts according to the foundation formula.

HB 262 – Prohibit State Assets Covid-19 Vaccination

1/7/2022 – Prefile released; by Reps. Eastman, Carpenter, Kurka

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Community & Regional Affairs and State Affairs Committees

[HB 262](#) prohibits the state and municipalities from expending state funds to set restrictions on travel to and within Alaska, and from mandating vaccination for Covid-19.

HB 263 – Prohibit Covid-19 Vaccine Mandate

1/7/2022 – Prefile released; by Rep. Eastman

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the State Affairs and Judiciary Committees

[HB 263](#) prohibits officials, agents, and employees of municipalities, the state, and the federal government from enforcing any Covid-19 vaccination mandate, and directs the attorney general to file legal action, if necessary, to prevent implementation of a Covid-19 vaccination mandate.

HB 266 – Information Regarding Vaccines

1/14/2022 – Prefile released; by Rep. Eastman

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Health & Social Services, Judiciary, and Finance Committees

[HB 266](#) contains wide-ranging requirements related to vaccinations. One of the provisions in the bill gives school districts the option not to require vaccines for school attendance. The bill also creates many new requirements for the administration of vaccines. HB 266 makes it illegal for schools, businesses, and non-profit organizations to require Covid-19 vaccinations.

HB 272 – Increase Base Student Allocation

1/14/2022 – Prefile released; by Reps. Story, Drummond, Spohnholz, Hopkins, Schrage

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Education and Finance Committees

2/9/2022 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; invited & public testimony

2/11/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee

[HB 272](#) increases the base student allocation from \$5,930 to \$6,153 for FY23, and then to \$6,208 for FY24.

HB 273 – Increase Base Student Allocation Inflation

1/14/2022 – Prefile released; by Reps. Story, Drummond, Spohnholz, Hopkins, Schrage

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Education and Finance Committees

2/9/2022 – Scheduled but not heard in the House Education Committee; invited & public testimony

2/11/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee; invited & public testimony

[HB 273](#) increases the base student allocation every fiscal year “*by a percentage equal to the percentage of increase over the preceding three-year period in all items of the Consumer Price Index for urban Alaska prepared by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.*”

HB 274 – Constitutional Rights; Covid Vaccine

1/14/2022 – Prefile released; by Rep. Eastman

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Health & Social Services and Judiciary Committees

[HB 274](#) makes it a violation of the Alaska Constitution to administer a Covid-19 vaccination to a person, including a child, if the person objects to receiving the vaccination.

HB 275 – Vaccine Requirements for School Children

1/14/2022 – Profile released; by Reps. Eastman, Carpenter

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Education and Health & Social Services Committees

[HB 275](#) prohibits the Dept. of Education & Early Development from requiring a child to be vaccinated if the vaccine has not been formally approved by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration, or if it is a human gene therapy product that has not yet had a long-term follow-up study. HB 275 also prohibits school districts from requiring vaccinations for students if they are only attending school virtually.

HB 278 – Covid-19 Vaccination Equivalent

1/18/2022 – Introduced; by Reps. McCarty, Carpenter; referred to the Labor & Commerce and Health & Social Services Committees

[HB 278](#) requires employers, including school districts, to accept, in lieu of a vaccination, a blood test that shows the employee has antibodies to Covid if a vaccination is required by the employer.

HB 280 – School ADM Excluding Employee Children

1/18/2022 – Introduced; by Rep. Eastman; referred to the Community & Regional Affairs and Education Committees

[HB 278](#) excludes the children of all school employees from the ADM count for a school.

HB 281 – FY23 Operating Budget

1/18/2022 – Introduced; by The Rules Committee at the request of the Governor; referred to the Finance Committee

1/24/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance DEED Subcommittee; Dept. Overview

1/25/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee

1/26/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee

1/26/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance DEED Subcommittee; Libraries, Archives & Museums and Mt. Edgecumbe High School

1/27/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee

1/28/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance DEED Subcommittee; ACPE and Alaska State Council on the Arts

1/31/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance DEED Subcommittee; ACPE

2/2/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance DEED Subcommittee; Div. of Innovation & Education Excellence

2/4/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance DEED Subcommittee; Divisions of Finance & Support Services and Administrative Services

2/7/2022 – Heard and held in the DEED Subcommittee; Alaska State Council on the Arts

2/9/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance DEED Subcommittee; Covid relief funds

2/9/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee

2/11/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance DEED Subcommittee; Covid relief funds

2/16/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the House Finance DEED Subcommittee; How school districts are spending Covid-19 federal relief funds

2/18/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the House Finance DEED Subcommittee; Overview: Governor's DEED amendments

[HB 281](#) is the FY23 operating budget. HB 281 includes, among other things:

- Full funding for the BSA and pupil transportation
- \$8,535,800 for residential schools
- \$1,100,000 for youth in detention
- \$4,070,500 for special schools
- \$77,129,600 for child nutrition
- \$151,864,500 for student and school achievement
- \$8,215,000 for early learning coordination
- \$3,200,000 for Pre-K grants
- \$4,942,400 for WWAMI
- \$11,750,000 for Alaska Performance Scholarship awards
- \$5,841,800 for Alaska Education Grants
- \$1,401,000 for the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education
- \$78,975,672 (full funding) for school bond debt reimbursement
- \$32,784,000 to the REAA and small municipal school district fund
- \$14,667,500 for Mt. Edgecumbe High School

HB 282 – FY23 Mental Health Budget

1/18/2022 – Introduced; by The Rules Committee at the request of the Governor; referred to the Finance Committee

1/27/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee; Presentation: baseline & governor's 10-year plan, by the Div. of Legislative Finance

2/9/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the House Finance Committee; Presentation: DEED FY23 budget, BSA, federal aid

2/14/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the House Finance Committee

2/17/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the House Finance Committee

2/18/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the House Finance Committee

[HB 282](#) is the FY23 mental health budget. It contains, among other things:

- \$395,200 for the Governor’s Council on Disabilities & Special Education
- \$577,800 for student and school achievement

HB 284 – FY22 Supplemental Budget

1/19/2022 – Introduced; by the Rules Committee at the request of the Governor;
referred to the Finance Committee

2/4/2022 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee

[HB 284](#) is the FY22 supplemental budget. Education items in the bill are:

- \$54,895,500 for replacement of the K-12 school in Napakiak (\$22,111,544 in funding is from the general fund, and \$32,784,000 is from the REAA Fund)
- \$180,000 for legal expenses to respond to the U.S. Dept. of Education’s denial of certification of school funding equalization
- -\$1,000,000 from the Broadband Assistance Grant program because of excess funding for FY22

There is a [spreadsheet](#) posed in BASIS with all the details on supplemental FY22 budget requests from the governor.

It includes (the only school-related item) \$54,895,544 for replacement of the William N. Miller K-12 memorial school in Napakiak. \$22,111,544 in funding is from the general fund, and \$32,784,000 is from the REAA Fund.

HB 300 – Approp: Supplemental; Capital; Amend

2/4/2022 – Introduced; by the Rules Committee at the request of the Governor;
referred to the Finance Committee

[HB 300](#) makes amendments to the FY22 budget. There are three amendments to the education budget:

- \$180,000 to School Finance & Facilities
- \$78,400 to Student & School Achievement
- -\$1,000,000 from Broadband Assistance Grants (an over-appropriation in the FY22 budget and not needed)

HB 312 – Allow Natural Hairstyles

2/9/2022 – Introduced; by Rep. Tarr; referred to the Education and Labor & Commerce committees

[HB 312](#) is identical to [SB 174](#) by Sen. Wilson. The bill prohibits schools adopting a dress code that prohibits students from wearing a hairstyle that is commonly or historically associated with race, or require students to permanently or semipermanently alter the student's natural hair unless the restriction is necessary to comply with a health or safety law, regulation, or ordinance.

HJR 20 – Constitutional Amendment: Education Funding

1/7/2022 – Profile released; by Reps. Johnson, Prax

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Education, Judiciary, and Finance Committees

[HJR 20](#) is a constitutional amendment that would allow the expenditure of public funds for private education.

A constitutional amendment must pass each body of the legislature by a two-thirds vote: 27 people in the house, and 14 people in the senate. If it passes the legislature, it will then be placed on the ballot at the next general election, at which it must get a majority of the votes cast.

SB 6 – RIP for Public Employees/Teachers

[Minutes, Audio, & Video Documents](#)

1/8/2021 – Profile Released; by Sen. Kawasaki

1/22/2021 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Education, Labor & Commerce, and Finance Committees

3/15/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

3/22/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Education Committee; committee substitute adopted; now in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee

3/24/2021 – CANCELLED: ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee~~

4/7/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee; invited & public testimony

4/16/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee with a committee substitute

[SB 6](#) allows employers to establish a temporary, voluntary retirement incentive program for defined benefit members of PERS and TRS (Public Employees' Retirement System and Teachers' Retirement System). The sponsor's intent is to increase state savings and possibly help prevent layoffs by letting high-cost, more senior employees retire early. See [the bill](#) or the three documents posted in BASIS for more details. There are a number of documents posted in BASIS, including:

- [Sponsor Statement](#)
- [Sectional Analysis](#)

- [Legislative Research Report](#)

The Senate Education Committee adopted a committee substitute that directs the Dept. of Administration commissioner to deny an application by a teacher if accepting the application would create an undue hardship for the school district.

4/16/2021: The Senate Labor & Commerce Committee heard and moved SB 6 from committee with a [committee substitute](#) that allows retired teachers to come back as mentor teachers.

SB 8 – Pre-K/Elementary Education Programs/Funding; Reading

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

[Documents](#)

1/8/2021 – Profile Released; by Sens. Begich, Kawasaki, Gray-Jackson

1/22/2021 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Education and Finance Committees

2/3/2021 – Sens. Kawasaki & Gray-Jackson added as co-sponsors

2/15/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

2/19/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

2/22/2021 – CANCELLED: ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee~~

3/1/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee; invited testimony

3/3/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee; invited and public testimony

[SB 8](#) is the 2021 iteration of [SB 6](#) from 2020. There are two documents posted in BASIS for SB 8: a [Sponsor Statement](#) and a [Sectional Analysis](#). The 5-page Sectional Analysis explains clearly what each section of the bill will do.

The title of SB 8 is: “*An Act relating to early education programs provided by school districts; relating to school age eligibility; relating to funding for early education programs; establishing early education programs and a voluntary parent program; relating to the duties of the Dept. of Education & Early Development; relating to certification of teachers; establishing a reading intervention program for public school students enrolled in grades kindergarten through three; establishing a reading program in the Dept. of Education & Early Development; establishing a teacher retention working group; and providing for an effective date.*”

SB 15 – Open Meetings Act; Penalty

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

[Documents](#)

1/8/2021 – Profile Released; by Sen. Costello

1/22/2021 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Community & Regional Affairs, Judiciary, and Finance Committees

2/25/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee
3/4/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee
3/9/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee; public testimony
3/17/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Judiciary Committee
3/22/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Judiciary Committee
3/31/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Judiciary Committee; invited and public testimony
4/12/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Judiciary Committee
4/19/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Judiciary Committee with a committee substitute; public testimony
4/21/2021 – Referral to the Senate Finance Committee added; now in the Senate Finance Committee

[SB 15](#) institutes a fine not to exceed \$1,000 for violations of the Open Meetings Act by members of a governmental body, including school board members. It does not apply to members of the legislature or the judiciary.

The Anchorage Daily News has a March 17, 2021 [article](#) on how this bill would affect school districts, municipalities, and local boards and commissions. The article states that SB 15 prohibits electronic meetings; institute fines of up to \$1,000 for members of school boards, municipalities, and members of local boards and commissions who do not meet in person, who do not take public testimony in person, or who do not give proper notice under the Alaska Public Open Meetings Act; and requires the Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC) to investigate every complaint against members of school boards, municipalities, and local boards and commissions, incurring an estimated cost to APOC of more than \$400,000 annually.

[The fiscal note](#) from APOC states,

"Enactment of SB 15 will require an increase in APOC staffing due to the number of boards, commissions and service areas subject to the Open Meetings Act that will be under APOC jurisdiction. For example, the State of Alaska has 133 boards and commissions, the Municipality of Anchorage has 45, and the City and Borough of Juneau has 32. Even smaller communities have boards, commissions and service areas; for example, Unalaska has 4, Bethel has 8, and Nome has 6."

Community councils are excluded from SB 15. [AS 39.50.200](#) lists the positions that would fall under SB 15. The positions include school board members, the DEED State Board, the University Board of Regents, the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, and the Alaska State Council on the Arts. Here's [a link to the documents](#) associated with SB 15.

Legislators and the legislature are exempt from SB 15, even though the legislature prohibited in-person testimony for part of 2020 and all of 2021.

SB 16 – Equal Pay/Living Wage Act; Sex Discrimination

1/8/2021 – Profile Released; by Sens. Begich, Gray-Jackson

1/22/2021 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Labor & Commerce, Judiciary, and Finance Committees

[SB 16](#) prohibits wage discrimination on the basis of sex and increases the minimum wage to \$15 an hour, effective January 1, 2022. After that, the minimum wage will be adjusted annually for inflation.

SB 17 – Energy Efficiency & Policy: Public Buildings

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

[Documents](#)

1/8/2021 – Profile Released; by Sen. Begich

1/22/2021 – Introduced; referred to the Community & Regional Affairs, Labor & Commerce, and Finance Committees

2/25/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee

3/30/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee; invited and public testimony

4/8/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee; SB 17 is now in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee

4/23/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee; invited & public testimony

4/28/2021 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee~~

4/30/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee; no changes were made to the bill

[SB 17](#) sets a goal that by 2026 the state will have entered into \$100 million in energy service performance contracts for public facilities, including schools, that will result in savings on energy costs. The bill requires the Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities to perform an energy audit of each public school at least once every seven years. This excludes charter schools. The bill also has a goal that at least 50 percent of the energy used by state and state-funded facilities, including public schools, be obtained from clean energy sources. See [the bill](#) for more details.

4/8/2021: The Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee made a few clarifying changes to the bill in a committee substitute.

SB 18 – Class Size Reduction Grant Program

1/8/2021 – Prefile Released; by Sen. Begich

1/22/2021 – Introduced; referred to the Education and Finance Committees

[SB 18](#) directs school districts to adopt policies setting the maximum class size for each grade. SB 18 establishes a class size reduction grant program in the Dept. of Education & Early Development. See [the bill](#) for details on the grant program.

SB 20 – Out Of State Teacher Reciprocity

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

[Documents](#)

1/8/2021 – Prefile Released; by Sen. Stevens; Rep. Story

1/22/2021 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Education and Finance Committees

3/15/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

3/19/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Education Committee; invited and public testimony;

3/29/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee

4/6/2021 – Scheduled but not heard in the Senate Finance Committee

4/19/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee

4/21/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Finance Committee

4/30/2021 – Read the second time in the senate

5/3/2021 – Passed by a vote of 17 yeas, 2 excused, and 1 absent.

5/4/2021 – Read for the first time in the house and referred to the House Education and Finance Committees

5/10/2021 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee; invited & public testimony~~

2/16/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee; invited & public testimony

[SB 20](#) requires the Dept. of Education & Early Development to issue teacher certificates to people who hold a valid teacher certificate issued by another state, who have had a background check, and who have paid the required fee.

New Information (1/15/2021): From the sponsor's staff in an email:

“The premise behind SB 20 is to lower barriers-to-entry, to address the teacher shortage we have in Alaska. It seeks to improve opportunities for teachers legitimately certified and in good standing in other states, to be able to more readily apply their teaching credentials in Alaska, and begin teaching here more quickly. Incoming certified teachers are of course expected to continue their training in such things as AK cultural awareness and history, but SB 20 would

allow a reasonable time frame to complete such work after they begin teaching in their field.”

There are a [Sponsor Statement](#) and a [Sectional Analysis](#) posted in BASIS.

4/19/2021: An amendment was adopted in the Senate Finance Committee that requires the training (on alcohol and drug abuse disorder, sexual assault and dating violence protection, and suicide prevention), other than the training that’s three credit hours, to be completed within 90 days. The non-three credit courses can be completed in eight hours and can be done online.

SB 32 – College Credit For High School Students

[Minutes, Audio, & Video Documents](#)

1/8/2021 – Profile Released; by Sens. Stevens, Micciche, Gray-Jackson, Costello, Begich, Wielechowski, Reinbold, Kawasaki; Reps. Fields, Vance, Story, Kaufman, Tarr

1/25/2021 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Education and Finance Committees

3/8/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

3/17/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Education Committee; invited & public testimony

3/22/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee; invited & public testimony

3/29/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Finance Committee; committee substitute requires UA to make Middle College program available to school districts, but doesn’t require school districts to participate;

4/7/2021 – Passed the senate by a vote of 20 yeas; transmitted to the house

4/9/2021 – Read for the first time in the house and referred to the House Education and State Affairs Committees

4/19/2021 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; invited & public testimony

5/5/2021 – Heard in and moved from the House Education Committee; no changes made to bill

5/11/2021 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House State Affairs Committee~~

5/15/2021 – Heard and held in the House State Affairs Committee; recessed to 9:00 a.m., 5/17/2021

1/27/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate State Affairs Committee; public testimony

2/3/2022 – Heard in and moved from the Senate State Affairs Committee; no changes made to bill. It is now in the House Rules Committee awaiting placement on the calendar

[SB 32](#) establishes the Alaska middle college program, allowing students to enroll in

University of Alaska courses and earn dual credit. SB 32 requires the Dept. of Education & Early Development annual report to the legislature to include information on the Alaska middle college program. The Senate Finance Committee adopted a committee substitute that requires the University of Alaska to make their Middle College Program available to school districts, but school districts are not required to participate in the program.

4/19/2021: There is a current [Sponsor Statement](#) and [Sectional Analysis](#) in BASIS.

SB 34 – State-Tribal Education Compact Schools

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

[Documents](#)

1/8/2021 – Profile Released; by Sen. Stevens

1/25/2021 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Education and Judiciary Committees

4/21/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

4/23/2021 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee~~

4/28/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee; public testimony; SB 34 will not be heard again this session, but will be worked on over the interim

2/11/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

2/16/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee

[SB 34](#) allows the commissioner of the Dept. of Education & Early Development to enter into compacts with federally recognized tribes in the state for the establishment of state-tribal education compact schools (STEC). [The bill](#) lays out the process for establishing compacts, funding, and rules governing the schools. A STEC will be considered a school district, and must follow existing statutory requirements for school districts. STECs will be funded through the foundation formula.

State-tribal education compact schools may not charge tuition (other than for over-age persons and for extra curricular activities), and may not limit admission other than by age group, grade level, or capacity, but they may give preference to tribal members and siblings of already enrolled students if there are more applicants for admission than there is capacity. State-tribal education compact schools are required to provide special education and related services for children with disabilities.

Under SB 34, employees of state-tribal education compact schools are state employees, and the school may give employment preference to members of federally recognized tribes.

The Sponsor Statement states:

“Passage of this legislation will provide Tribes the opportunity to voluntarily apply to establish a State-Tribal compact school. State-tribal compact schools will

affirm the State's commitment to educating Alaska's children, and honor a government-to-government relationship with Tribes by partnering with them to improve educational outcomes. Partnering with tribes to deliver education will reestablish a sense of ownership and pride in the public educational system, and has the potential to substantially improve educational outcomes."

SB 36 – University of Alaska Regents Reporting Requirements

[Minutes, Audio, & Video Documents](#)

1/25/2021 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Education and Finance Committees; by Sens. Stevens, Hughes, Micciche, Costello, Wielechowski, Begich, Gray-Jackson
3/8/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee
3/17/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Education Committee; invited and public testimony
3/22/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee; invited and public testimony
3/29/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Finance Committee
4/7/2021 – Passed the senate by a vote of 20 yeas; transmitted to the house
4/9/2021 – Read in the house for the first time and referred to the House Education and State Affairs Committees

[SB 36](#) institutes new reporting requirements for the University of Alaska. The [Sectional Analysis](#) and [the bill](#) show that:

- Section 1: Adds to existing statute that the report on teacher training and retention that is submitted to the legislature every two years (by the 30th legislative day of the first regular session) be given to the senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of representatives, and that the legislature be notified that the report is available.
- Section 2: Requires the University of Alaska to submit ~~a semiannual report on the status of all its accreditations to the legislature by the 30th legislative day of each regular session and on or by July 1 of each year.~~ a report to the legislature every other year on the status of its accreditations (changed with the adoption of the Senate Education Committee substitute).
- The University of Alaska will be required to present the accreditation reports to the legislature during a hearing.

SB 37 – Teachers & Public Employees Retirement Plans

1/8/2021 – Prefile Released; by Sen. Kiehl
1/25/2021 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Labor & Commerce and Finance Committees

[SB 37](#) allows certain employees of PERS and TRS to choose between a defined contribution or a defined benefit retirement plan.

The bill also allows restoration of tenure rights in the district from which a teacher was retired due to a disability under [AS 14.25.130](#) if the disability has been removed or the teacher's health has been restored by rehabilitation, restorative education, or training. Tenure rights will be restored at such time as an opening for which the teacher is qualified becomes available. See the bill for more details.

SB 42 – Virtual and Early Education; Reading

[Minutes, Audio, & Video Documents](#)

1/15/2021 – Profile Released; by Sen. Hughes

1/25/2021 – Introduced; referred to the Education and Finance Committees

2/15/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

2/19/2021 – Scheduled but not heard in the Senate Education Committee

2/22/2021 – CANCELLED: ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee~~

The full title of [SB 42](#) is:

“An Act relating to early education programs provided by school districts; relating to course credit for students; relating to annual reports regarding school district performance and school district employees; relating to school age eligibility; relating to funding for early education programs; establishing early education programs and a voluntary parent program; relating to the duties and powers of the Department of Education and Early Development; relating to school operating fund reserves; relating to certification of teachers; relating to the Professional Teaching Practices Commission; relating to a virtual education consortium; establishing a reading intervention program for public school students enrolled in grades kindergarten through three; establishing a reading program in the Department of Education and Early Development; establishing a teacher retention working group; and providing for an effective date.”

This is the same bill that Sen. Hughes introduced in 2019 as [SB 79](#), which was then rolled into [SB 114](#), neither of which passed the legislature.

2/14/2021: There are now a number of [documents](#) associated with SB 42, including a [Sponsor Statement](#), a [Sectional Analysis](#), and six fiscal notes.

SB 58 – Funding for Correspondence Programs

[Minutes, Audio, & Video Documents](#)

1/29/2021 – Introduced; by the Rules Committee at the request of the Governor;
referred to the Education and Finance Committees
3/5/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

[SB 58](#) would increase state funding for correspondence students from 90 percent of average daily membership (ADM) to 100 percent. In addition, the ADM of correspondence students would be included in the funding formula before the multipliers for special needs students and secondary vocational and technical instruction are applied to the ADM of the district.

The estimated annual cost of SB 58 is \$35,544,300. Page 3 of [Fiscal Note 1](#) shows a breakdown of how much additional funding each school district will receive.

SB 72 – Secondary School Civics Education

[Minutes, Audio, & Video Documents](#)

2/5/2021 – Introduced; by Sens. Stevens, Begich, Hughes, Micciche; referred to the Senate Education, Community & Regional Affairs, Finance Committees
3/10/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee
3/19/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee; invited and public testimony
3/24/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Education Committee; committee substitute adopted; all members recommend the bill pass
3/30/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee
4/8/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee; invited & public testimony
4/20/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee; committee substitute
4/21/2021 – Senate Finance Committee referral added; now in the Senate Finance Committee

2/1/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee

2/8/2022 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Finance Committee

~~[SB 72](#) requires students to get at least 60 percent of the 128 questions of the civics portion of the U.S. naturalization test correct in order to graduate from high school. If a student meets the requirements of SB 72, schools must document that on the student's transcript. A student with a disability may receive a waiver from this requirement from the governing body.~~

~~SB 72 also requires the Dept. of Education & Early Development State Board to include in its annual report to the legislature a description of the civics education curriculum in the state public school system and the passage rate of the examination required by SB~~

~~72. The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2022.~~

3/24/2021: The Senate Education Committee adopted a committee substitute that rewrote SB 72. The bill now:

- Requires the DEED State Board to develop and periodically review a statewide civics education curriculum and assessment that include government, citizenship, and the history of systems of government used in the United States and the state.
- The curriculum and assessment must include systems of government used by Alaska Natives.
- Districts may use the curriculum to educate students in civics.
- Students are required to take the exam in order to graduate, but there is no minimum required score. Students with a disability may receive a waiver from taking the exam.
- If a student has taken the assessment that must be noted on the student's transcript.
- Districts must report to the state:
 - Which civics classes are offered in their district, and
 - Data on student performance on the assessment.
- The DEED State Board must report to the legislature:
 - A description of the state civics education curriculum,
 - The civics courses that are offered in each school district, and
 - Student performance on the assessment, by district.

4/8/2021: Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee considered [a committee substitute](#). There is also a [document](#) that explains the committee substitute:

- *Adds history of American constitutionalism as portrayed in the listed documents to the requirements of the civics curriculum and assessment.*
- *Adds a requirement that schools include a student's civics assessment score on the student's transcript.*
- *Adds a requirement that districts must report student performance on the civics assessment and curriculum to the department along with an average of district test scores on the assessment.*

4/9/2021: Tim Lamkin, staff to sponsor Sen. Stevens, said they are working on a new committee substitute that will combine the original bill with the Senate Education Committee substitute. So there will be questions from the U.S. naturalization test with scores required to be on transcripts, but no specific score required to pass the test, and the Dept. of Education & Early Development State Board will develop curriculum and an assessment

4/20/2021: Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee substitute. There is an [explanation](#) in BASIS of the changes made to the bill:

- The statewide civics education curriculum and assessment is based on the civics portion of U.S citizenship test, primary source documents, and systems of governance used by Alaska Natives.
- SB 72 requires a student to receive a passing score of 60 percent on the civics assessment to graduate and receiving a passing score will be indicated on the student's transcript.
- SB 72 allows for students to take the assessment as many times as needed to receive a passing score.
- Districts are required to report student performance on the civics assessment and curriculum to the Dept. of Education & Early Development, along with an average of district test scores on the assessment.
- SB 72 amended to remove the obligation of the DEED State Board to present in person before legislative committees.

2/8/2022 – Two amendments were adopted in the Senate Finance Committee. They increase the score required to pass from 60 percent to 70 percent, and change the effective date from July 1, 2022 to July 1, 2023.

SB 74 – G.O. Bonds: State Infrastructure Projects

[Minutes, Audio, & Video Documents](#)

2/5/2021 – Introduced; by the Senate Rules Committee at the request of the Governor; referred to the Senate Transportation and Finance Committees

2/25/2021 – CANCELLED: ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Sen. Transportation Committee~~

3/2/2021 – Heard and held in the Sen. Transportation Committee

3/9/2021 – Heard and held in the Sen. Transportation Committee

3/11/2021 – Heard and held in the Sen. Transportation Committee; public testimony

3/18/2021 – Heard and held in the Sen. Transportation Committee

3/23/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Sen. Transportation Committee; the bill is now in the Senate Finance Committee

[SB 74](#) relates to the issuance of general obligation bonds for state infrastructure projects. The bill totals \$356,405,952 and requires voter approval. The election would occur 90 to 120 days after adjournment of the first regular session of this legislature.

3/23/2021: the Senate Transportation Committee moved SB 74 with a committee substitute that changed the school projects from the top \$25 million in projects on the School Major Maintenance List to cherry picking certain projects from the list. The

changes to the bill were made in an amendment sponsored by committee chair Sen. Robert Myers. The projects chosen from the list were projects 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 16, and 18. You can view [the entire list here](#). Here's a [link to the amendment](#) that made those changes. The amendment is on pages 5 and 6. In addition to the projects from the Major Maintenance List, the bill still contains funding for Houston Middle School Replacement and Mt. Edgecumbe High School repairs.

[Fiscal Note 2](#) states that of the \$356,405,952 that SB 74 would cost, \$354,632,788 is for project costs, while \$1,773,164 is for costs associated with issuing the bonds. The fiscal note analysis states:

“This fiscal note assumes that the proposed projects will be eligible for tax-exempt financing. There may be adjustments to this assumption required after the state's bond counsel reviews the project list. To the extent projects are not tax-exempt eligible, financing costs will increase to Alternative Minimum Tax or taxable rates. Two key limits associated with tax-exempt bond issues are that an issuer must be able to track all funds, including any investment earnings on unspent proceeds, to final expenditure on an allowed public capital project and that all funds resulting from the bond issuance are expended within three years of the bond sale. Due to these limitations it is anticipated that the authorization would require careful state oversight of the proposed municipal projects and potentially require multiple bond issues. This fiscal note assumes a single bond sale that would close in July 2021 to provide funding as quickly as possible.”

Education projects in SB 74 are ([page 2](#)):

- \$9 million for Houston Middle School replacement
- \$25 million for the Major Maintenance Grant Fund for School Major Maintenance (The Sen. Transportation Committee substitute named specific projects on the
- \$7,882,000 for Mt. Edgecumbe High School repairs

The projects on the Dept. of Education & Early Development's most recent School Major Maintenance Grant Fund list are [here](#). There are 108 projects on the list, with a total state share of \$ \$187,285,413. They are listed in order of priority.

Replacement of Houston Middle School is not on DEED's [School Construction Grant Fund list](#). There are 17 projects on that list, with a total state share of \$162,305,916. Houston Middle School was destroyed in the November 30, 2018 earthquake that hit southcentral Alaska.

SB 80 – Public Schools: Mental Health Education

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

Documents

2/12/2021 – Introduced; by Sens. Gray-Jackson, Begich; referred to the Education, Health & Social Services, and Finance Committees

3/10/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

3/19/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee; invited and public testimony

3/22/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Education Committee with a committee substitute

4/6/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Health & Social Services Committee; invited & public testimony

4/15/2021 – Scheduled but not heard in the Senate Health & Social Services Committee

4/20/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Health & Social Services Committee; committee substitute; now in the Senate Finance Committee

2/8/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee

[SB 80](#) is identical to [HB 60](#). The bill directs the Dept. of Education & Early Development to develop guidelines for instruction in mental health, and encourages school districts to include mental health in their health education programs. In developing guidelines, DEED must consult with the Dept. of Health & Social Services and representatives of national and state mental health organizations and Tribal health organizations.

3/22/2021: The Senate Education Committee substitute removes the names of specific organizations that will be consulted and just specifies that representatives of national and state mental health organizations and Tribal health organizations will be consulted.

4/20/2021: The Senate Health & Social Services Committee substitute adds an [amendment](#) by Sen. Wilson that requires active consent from parents or guardians before a student can have instruction in mental health.

SB 111 – Early Education; Reading Intervention

Minutes, Audio, & Video

Documents

3/24/2021 – Introduced; by the Senate Education Committee; referred to the Senate Education and Finance Committees

3/26/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

3/29/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

3/31/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

4/7/2021 – CANCELLED: ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee; invited & public testimony~~

4/9/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

4/10/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee; public testimony

4/12/2021 – CANCELLED: ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee~~
4/14/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee
4/16/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Education Committee; committee substitute; now in the Senate Finance Committee
5/13/2021 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Finance Committee~~
1/25/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee
1/26/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee
2/10/2022 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Finance Committee~~
2/15/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Finance Committee

See the [Sponsor Statement](#) and [Sectional Analysis](#) for information on [SB 111](#). The bill is intended to replace two other reading/Pre-K/virtual education bills: [SB 8](#) (Sen. Begich’s bill) and [SB 42](#) (Sen. Hughes’s bill). All documents for SB 111 are posted [here](#).

4/9/2021: There is now [a summary of proposed changes](#) for a proposed committee substitute posted in BASIS. The proposed committee substitute is not yet posted in BASIS.

4/16/2021: The Senate Education Committee moved SB 111 with a [committee substitute](#). There is an [explanation of the changes](#) in the draft committee substitute, but the explanation does not include amendments the committee adopted. They adopted Amendments 1 through 11 in this [amendments packet](#).

4/23/2021: The House Education Committee adopted a committee substitute for [HB 164](#) that makes it identical to SB 111, so there is now a companion bill to SB 111 in the house. See the new [Sectional Analysis](#) for details on what’s in the most recent versions of HB 164 and SB 111, plus the [separate Sectional Analysis](#) for Sections 14 and 35.

1/28/2022: I heard that the Senate Finance Committee is working on a committee substitute for SB 111. I haven’t heard what they will be changing.

SB 112 – Student Transportation Planning

3/26/2021 – Introduced; by Sen. Shower; referred to the Education and Transportation Committees

2/16/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee

[SB 112](#) states that pupil transportation regulations adopted by the Dept. of Education & Early Development “*must require implementation of a bus logistics plan that increases efficiency of school transportation using an airline or other private sector spoke and wheel type of model to reduce multiple individual runs on the same routes and proactive planning of school schedules to ensure maximum efficiency.*”

SB 119 – Oath of Office

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)

[Documents](#)

4/7/2021 – Introduced; by Sens. Reinbold, Myers; referred to the Senate Education, Judiciary, State Affairs, and Finance Committees

4/23/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

4/28/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Education Committee; invited & public testimony

4/30/2020 – Senate Finance Committee referral removed; now in the Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee

5/11/2021 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee; invited & public testimony~~

5/13/2021 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee; now in the Senate Judiciary Committee

1/31/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Judiciary Committee

2/2/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Judiciary Committee

2/9/2022 – Scheduled but not heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee

2/11/2022 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Judiciary Committee

[SB 119](#) requires school board members, law enforcement, all judges and magistrates (including Alaska Supreme Court judges), legislators, administrative officers, members of state boards and commissions, and all state employees to read the Constitution of the State of Alaska, the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution of the United States before taking the oath of office.

SB 140 – Designate Sex for School-Sponsored Sports

4/28/2021 – Introduced; by Sen. Hughes; referred to the Senate Education Committee

[SB 140](#) requires public schools, and private schools that compete against public schools, to designate sports and sports teams as female, male, or coeducational. Students who participate in sports designated for females must be biologically female.

SB 140 states that students deprived of athletic opportunity or who suffer direct or indirect harm can sue a school for injunctive relief, damages, and any other relief available under law.

SB 156 – Prohibit Covid-19 Vaccine Discrimination

1/7/2022 – Profile released; by Sen. Reinbold

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the State Affairs and Health & Social Services Committees

2/3/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate State Affairs Committee

2/8/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate State Affairs Committee

2/10/2022 – Heard in and moved from the Senate State Affairs Committee

[SB 156](#) prohibits the state and municipalities from requiring Covid-19 vaccinations, and prohibits requiring individuals to show proof of vaccination. The bill prohibits all employers from requiring employees to be vaccinated. Under SB 156, parents are allowed to object to the administration of Covid-19 vaccinations for their child, with no justification or documentation required for the objection.

SB 157 – Health & Personal Safety Education

1/7/2022 – Prefile released; by Sen. Gray-Jackson

1/18/2022 – Introduced; referred to the Education and Health & Social Services Committees

[SB 157](#) requires school districts to provide a program in health and personal safety for grades K-12. Programs must include education on sexual health, and must:

- Instruct on human development, sexuality, and reproduction, including instruction on abstinence, anatomy and physiology, consent, contraception, healthy relationships, and the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases;
- Is appropriate to a student's age and development;
- Teaches medically and scientifically accurate information informed by scientific research and effective practices;
- Several other provisions (see page 6 of [the bill](#)).

Districts shall submit information on their programs to the Dept. of Education & Early Development for reporting. Districts shall also report that information to parents, students, and communities in public meetings.

SB 162 – FY23 Operating Budget

1/18/2022 – Introduced; by The Rules Committee at the request of the Governor; referred to the Finance Committee

2/2/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee

2/3/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee

[SB 162](#) is the FY23 operating budget. SB 162 includes, among other things:

- Full funding for the BSA and pupil transportation
- \$8,535,800 for residential schools
- \$1,100,000 for youth in detention
- \$4,070,500 for special schools

- \$77,129,600 for child nutrition
- \$151,864,500 for student and school achievement
- \$8,215,000 for early learning coordination
- \$3,200,000 for Pre-K grants
- \$4,942,400 for WWAMI
- \$11,750,000 for Alaska Performance Scholarship awards
- \$5,841,800 for Alaska Education Grants
- \$1,401,000 for the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education
- \$78,975,672 (full funding) for school bond debt reimbursement
- \$32,784,000 to the REAA and small municipal school district fund
- \$14,667,500 for Mt. Edgecumbe High School

SB 163 – FY23 Mental Health Budget

1/18/2022 – Introduced; by The Rules Committee at the request of the Governor;
referred to the Finance Committee

2/2/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee

2/3/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee

[SB 163](#) is the FY23 mental health budget. It contains, among other things:

- \$395,200 for the Governor's Council on Disabilities & Special Education
- \$577,800 for student and school achievement

SB 165 – FY22 Supplemental Budget

1/19/2022 – Introduced; by the Rules Committee at the request of the Governor;
referred to the Finance Committee

[SB 165](#) is the FY22 supplemental budget. Education items in the bill are:

- \$54,895,500 for replacement of the K-12 school in Napakiak (\$22,111,544 in funding is from the general fund, and \$32,784,000 is from the REAA Fund)
- \$180,000 for legal expenses to respond to the U.S. Dept. of Education's denial of certification of school funding equalization
- -\$1,000,000 from the Broadband Assistance Grant program because of excess funding for FY22

There is a [spreadsheet](#) posed in BASIS with all the details on supplemental FY22 budget requests from the governor.

SB 174 – Allow Natural Hairstyles

2/1/2022 – Introduced; by Sens. Wilson, Gray-Jackson; referred to the Senate
Education and Labor & Commerce Committees

2/16/2022 – Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee

[SB 174](#) prohibits schools from adopting a dress code that prohibits students from wearing a hairstyle that is commonly or historically associated with race, or require students to permanently or semipermanently alter the student's natural hair unless the restriction is necessary to comply with a health or safety law, regulation, or ordinance.

SB 174 is identical to [HB 312](#).

SB 176 – Approp: Supplemental; Capital; Amend

2/1/2022 – Introduced; by the Rules Committee at the request of the Governor;
referred to the Finance Committee

2/7/2022 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee

[SB 176](#) makes amendments to the FY22 budget. There are three amendments to the education budget:

- \$180,000 to School Finance & Facilities
- \$78,400 to Student & School Achievement
- -\$1,000,000 from Broadband Assistance Grants (an over-appropriation in the FY22 budget and not needed)

SJR 10 – Constitutional Amendment: In-Person Public Education

[Minutes, Audio, & Video](#)
[Documents](#)

2/3/2021 – Introduced; Sen. Costello; referred to the Senate Education and Judiciary Committees

4/14/2021 – CANCELLED: ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee~~

4/21/2021 – CANCELLED: ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee~~

5/7/2021 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

[SJR 10](#) adds to the Alaska Constitution a provision stating that, “*Public schools shall provide the opportunity for in-person education unless a disaster declaration is in effect.*” A constitutional amendment must pass each body of the legislature by a two-thirds vote: 27 people in the house, and 14 people in the senate. If it passes the legislature, it will then be placed on the ballot at the next general election, at which it must get a majority of the votes cast.

Under SJR 10, a place like Tuluksak, which didn't have water for 45 days this winter and spring, would be required to still provide in-person schooling, putting the health and lives of students and staff at risk, since there wasn't a disaster declaration in effect until

nearly a month after they lost water. It is unlikely SJR 10 will pass the legislature. Therefore, hearings on this resolution will not be covered.