

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 215(EDC)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/28/24

Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): SENATORS BJORKMAN, Hughes

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to teacher national board certification; and providing for an effective**
2 **date."**

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

4 * **Section 1.** AS 14.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 14.20.225. Teacher incentive payments and reimbursement of costs**
6 **relating to national board certification.** (a) In January of each year, a district or the
7 department, as applicable, may pay an incentive payment of \$5,000 to each teacher
8 who is employed by the district or the department and who holds a current and valid
9 national board certification.

10 (b) A district or the department, as applicable, shall reimburse each teacher
11 who is employed by the district or the department and who is pursuing a national
12 board certification for the costs the teacher incurs in pursuing the national board
13 certification. The district or the department, as applicable, shall reimburse the teacher
14 on an ongoing basis for the costs incurred by the teacher and not later than 60 days

1 after the teacher makes a request for reimbursement.

2 (c) The department shall provide sufficient funding, subject to appropriation
3 and in addition to the state aid received under AS 14.17, to a district to make national
4 board certification incentive and reimbursement payments as provided in this section.

5 (d) Nothing in this section prohibits a district or the department from
6 providing additional monetary incentives to a teacher.

7 (e) In this section,

8 (1) "district" has the meaning given in AS 14.17.990;

9 (2) "national board certification" means individual achievement of
10 national professional teaching standards as certified by a nationally recognized board.

11 * **Sec. 2.** The uncoded law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
12 read:

13 **APPLICABILITY.** (a) This Act applies to a contract or collective bargaining
14 agreement that becomes legally binding on or after the effective date of this Act.

15 (b) AS 14.20.225(b), added by sec. 1 of this Act, applies to costs a teacher incurs on
16 or after the effective date of this Act.

17 * **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2024.