

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 104(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/15/17

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the duties of the state Board of Education and Early Development;**
2 **and relating to school curriculum."**

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

4 * **Section 1.** AS 14.07 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 14.07.180. Curriculum approval and review.** (a) Notwithstanding any
6 other provision of law, the board shall establish a procedure to review and approve
7 curricula for each grade level in the state. The procedure must meet the requirements
8 described in this section.

9 (b) The board shall approve curricula currently used by the five largest school
10 districts based on the district ADM for the 2015-2016 school year and by two regional
11 educational attendance areas selected by the board. The department shall make
12 approved curricula available to all school districts to use on a voluntary basis.

13 (c) The department, in consultation with schools districts, shall review
14 mathematics and language arts curricula used in schools in the state and in other states

1 and countries. Not later than July 1, 2018, the department shall identify the best
2 mathematics and language arts curricula and the best practices for teaching the
3 curricula in each grade level in the state.

4 (d) The department may submit the curricula to the board for approval if the
5 department concludes that the curricula and best practices

6 (1) are appropriate;

7 (2) are in compliance with the nondiscrimination standards established
8 under AS 14.18.060(b);

9 (3) are aligned with state education standards; and

10 (4) result in improved academic achievement for students.

11 (e) If the board approves a curriculum under (d) of this section, the department
12 shall make the curriculum available to all school districts. A school district may use
13 the curriculum if the curriculum is selected by the local governing body of the school
14 district.

15 (f) The board shall adopt standards for the approval of curricula and best
16 practices under this section.

17 (g) Notwithstanding AS 14.08.111(7), AS 14.14.090(7), and AS 14.16.020, a
18 school district is not required to review curricula in the subjects of mathematics and
19 language arts in

20 (1) the school year beginning in 2017 through the school year ending
21 in 2020; or

22 (2) a school year beginning in 2020 or later, if the school district
23 adopts the curriculum approved by the board under (d) and (e) of this section.

24 (h) The department shall submit an electronic report to the legislature and
25 make the report available to the public on the department's Internet website. The report
26 must provide information on the curriculum that each school district has adopted. On
27 or before July 1, 2018, and each year thereafter, the department shall submit the report
28 required under this subsection to the senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house
29 of representatives and notify the legislature that the report is available.

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