Bill Review
HB 64

Reading Proficiency Task Force - Dyslexia


- Passed by House 33 to 3. Transmitted to Senate and referred to Senate Education. Passed Senate Education 4/0 and referred to Senate Finance and then to Senate Rules.

- Establishes a task force for reading/dyslexia. Designated seat for AASB.

- Companion bill is SB 27.
Expands the REAA & small municipal fund to include major maintenance as well as school construction. Meets the intent of the Kasayulie settlement.

Prime Sponsor – Rep. Neal Foster

Referred to Education & Finance

Heard and passed out of House Education 5 “Do Pass”

Bipartisan support

Currently in House Finance
Restructures Fund by combining accounts. Draws off funding by using a POMV of 4.75% of fund value. Value is determined based on monthly average market value for the 10 previous fiscal years.

Bill was recommended by House Finance DEED subcommittee.

Bill went to Finance and then to Rules. Sent back to Finance and then back to Rules and on to House floor.

Passed the House but has a notice of reconsideration.
There are two other bills dealing with Bree’s Law (SB 171 and HB 324) both introduced at the request of the Governor. Those two bills rename a portion of the Alaska Safe Children’s Act as well as expanding the mandatory reporters.

HB 214 only renames a portion of the Alaska Safe Children’s Act as Bree’s Law.

The bill has passed the House. It was considered by Senate Education with no changes and referred to Senate Judiciary.
Will allow the sharing of data between the Dept of Labor and DEED into a new database known as the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS).

It will allow for the assessment on the effectiveness of workforce training programs.

No personally identifiable information will be shared with the federal government.

Heard and passed out of House Education and was referred House Finance.
Reemployment of Retired Teachers & Administrators

- Allows districts to hire a teacher or administrator for positions that are unable to be filled.
- Heard and passed out of House State Affairs.
- Currently in House Finance.
- Companion bill is SB 185.
This bill sunsets Dec 31, 1018. HB233 would extend the education tax credit to Dec 32, 2025.

This legislation allows companies to make charitable contributions to educational institutions and programs in Alaska.

The tax credits offset certain business taxes.

The bill was heard in House Education and has been referred to House Finance.

A companion bill is SB 116.
HB 324  Bree’s Law

- Referred to House Rules Committee at the request of the Governor.
- Renames portions of the Alaska Safe Children’s Act to Bree’s Law.
- Expands the Mandatory Reporters of child sexual abuse.
- Currently in House Education Committee.
- Companion bill is SB 171.
This bill would increase the Base Student Allocation by $100 bringing it to $6030.

It was heard in House Education and received 5 “Do Pass” votes with bipartisan support.

Referred to House Finance.

AASB provided a letter of support for the bill.
This bill allows an REAA to transfer a school to a contiguous REAA.

Both school boards must agree to the transfer of the school.

It is currently in House Community & Regional Affairs. The next committee of referral is Education.
This bill would prohibit the state from contracting with Internet Service Providers (ISP’s) who do not treat all websites equally or engage in paid prioritization of websites.

Also known as “net neutrality.”

Referred to House State Affairs and Finance

Currently in House State Affairs.
HJR 29

Reauthorization of Secure Rural Schools Act


- First enacted in 1908 as the National Forest Receipts Program to share annual income from national forest land for distribution for the benefit of education and roads.

- Affects Alaska through the Tongass and Chugach National Forests.

- Was heard in House State Affairs and Judicial and has been referred to Finance.
Establishes a task force for reading/dyslexia. Designated seat for AASB.

- Referred to Senate Education Committee.

- Companion bill is HB 64 which is moving and is the apparent vehicle.
● Creates an Education Raffle in which dividend recipients may contribute a portion of their dividend for raffle chances.

● Contributions are split into 3 funds: 50% into Public Education Fund; 25% into Education Endowment Fund; 25% into Dividend Raffle Fund.

● 1/5 of Dividend Raffle Fund is for pay-out of prizes.

● Dividend Raffle Fund capped at $500 Million. Overage into Education Endowment Fund which is capped at $1 billion. Overage of that into Public Education Fund.
● Changes the curriculum review cycle from 6 years to 10 years

● DEED will find and make available curriculum for English, Language Arts & Math.

● 5 pilot districts will test the material for 2 years. If it is effective the State Board will approve its use by districts. Districts may then adopt it on a voluntary basis. Funding will initially be available.

● Senate Education waived public hearing and referred to Finance. It was then referred to Senate Rules who sent it back to Senate Finance.
This bill sunsets December 31, 2018. SB 116 would extend the education tax credit to December 32, 2025.

This legislation allows companies to make charitable contributions to educational institutions and programs in Alaska.

The tax credits offset certain business taxes.

Heard in Senate Labor & Commerce & referred to Senate Finance.

A companion bill is HB 233.
SB 131  Early Funding for Education

- Creates a 4th funding appropriation (Education) along with Operational, Capital, and Mental Health.
- Requires an education appropriation be passed NLT April 1 each year.
- Heard and passed out of Senate Education.
- Referred to Senate Finance.
SB 171  
Bree’s Law

- Referred to Senate Rules Committee at the request of the Governor.
- Referrals to Education, Health & Human Services, Judicial.
- Renames portions of the Alaska Safe Children’s Act to Bree’s Law.
- Expands the Mandatory Reporters of child sexual abuse.
- Heard by Senate Education and held in committee.
- Companion bill is HB 324.
SB 185

Reemployment of Retired Teachers & Administrators

- Allows districts to hire a teacher or administrator for positions that are unable to be filled.
- Heard in Senate Education and referred to Senate Finance.
- Companion bill is HB 224.
● Sets a statutory limit of $4.1 billion for how much the Legislature may appropriate for agency budget expenses each year.

● The amount would adjust each year for inflation.

● Bill was heard in Senate State Affairs and Finance and referred to Senate Rules.