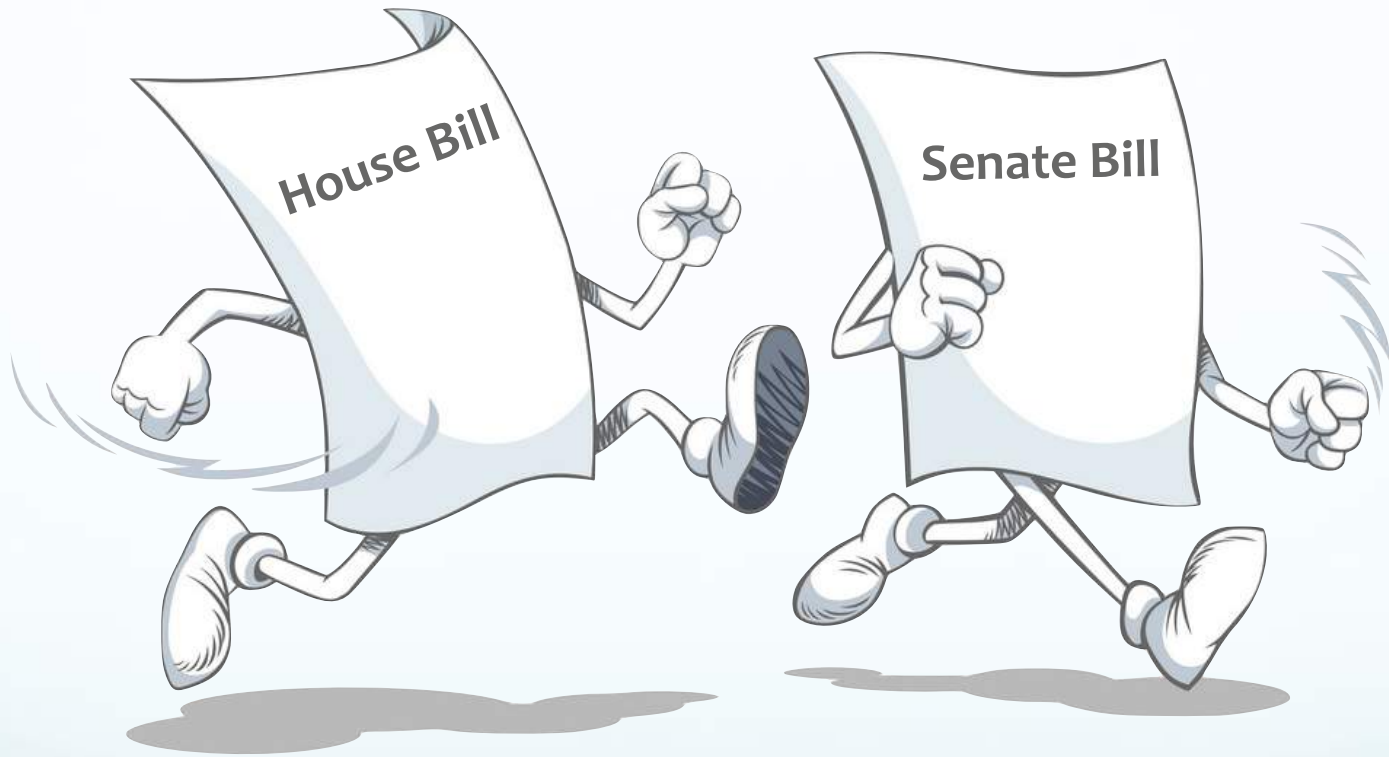


Legislation On The Move



Norm Wooten
AASB Director of Advocacy



HB 18 – Teachers: National Board Certification

Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins (D-Sitka)

- Encourages teachers to become National Board Certified.
- Goal is 4% of teachers by 2025.
- Schools are required to create a display in the building of all teachers who are National Board Certified.
- AASB testified in support of HB 18.
- AASB has consistently “pushed back” on requiring districts to pay for National Board Certification.
- Bill is in House Rules Committee awaiting calendaring on the House floor.



HB 19 – Limited Teacher Certificate; Languages

Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins (D-Sitka)

- Allows a limited certificate to be issued to a teacher in a language immersion program. Only valid in that specific program.
- Certificate for a non-Alaska Native language cannot exceed 4 years.
- Certificate for an Alaska Native language may exceed 4 years.
- AASB testified in support of HB 19 in accordance with several of our Resolutions.
- Bill is in Sen. L&C – one more committee referral – Sen. Fin.



HB 60 – Public School Mental Health Education

Rep. Matt Claman (D-Anchorage)

- DEED is to develop guidelines for instruction in mental health
- 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.
- Each district is **ENCOURAGED** to initiate and conduct a K-12 mental health program.
- AASB testified in support of this HB 60.
- Bill is in final House committee – HSE. Fin.



HB 164 – Early ED Programs; Reading; Virtual Ed

Rep. Chris Tuck (D-Anchorage)

- Implements Early Ed program over a period of 6 years beginning with lowest performing 10% of districts.
- Districts not required to establish a pre-K program.
- Once a district pre-K program is approved by DEED – it may include pre-K students in the ADM at .05.
- Requires an evidence based reading program through grade 3 with interventions for students not meeting proficiency. DEED is to develop criteria.
- Increases limit on unreserved fund balance from 10% to 25% of district expenditures.



HB 164 – Early ED Programs; Reading; Virtual Ed *Rep. Chris Tuck (D-Anchorage)*

- Elementary education teaching endorsement must have 3 credits, or equivalent, in evidence-based reading instruction.
- Establishes Virtual Education Consortium. Professional development for teachers utilizing virtual ed will be available.
- DEED will develop a database of virtual education courses for 6-12.
- Early ed grants will be repealed after 11 years.
- Bill is in final HSE committee of referral – HSE Fin.



HB 220 – Retirement Systems; Defined Benefits Option

Rep. Grier Hopkins (D-Fairbanks)

- Designed to be cost neutral with a variable contribution rate of 6% to 8%. If fund balance drops below 90% employee contributions can rise from 6% to 8%.
- Would be open to TRS Tier 3 and PRS Tier 4 and all future state employees. Employees would have the option to enter a defined contribution or a defined benefits plan.
- Employees could retire after 30 years of employment or at age 60.
- Health care benefits would remain the same as TRS tier 3 and PERS tier 4.
- Bill is in final HSE committee of referral – HSE Fin.



HB 259 – PFD’s 25/75 POMV Split *Rep. Ivy Spohnholz (D-Anchorage)*

- Retains the statutory amount of the POMV draw from the PF.
- 25% of the POMV draw would be allocated to PFDs.
- 75% of the POMV draw would be allocated to the GF.
- Of the the 75% to the GF, no less that 50% would go to the public education fund to satisfy the foundation formula.
- If the 50% of the 75% GF allocation does not satisfy the foundation formula, the GF would make up the shortage.
- If the 50% of the 75% exceeds the foundation formula, the overage would be distributed to districts through the formula.
- AASB testified in support of HB 259.
- The bill is the 2nd committee of referral – HSE Ed – Next is HSE Fin.



HB 272 – Increase Base Student Allocation

Rep Andi Story (D-Juneau)

- Increases the BSA over two years from the current \$5930:
 - July 1, 2022 - \$6153
 - July 2, 2023 - \$6208
- This would be the first BSA increase since 2017.
- AASB sent out a Call-To-Action for testimony on February 9.
- HB 272 is in the first committee of referral, HSE Ed and still must go to HSE Fin.



HB 273 – Increase Base Student Allocation Inflation *Rep. Andi Story (D-Juneau)*

- Increases the BSA for inflation each year.
- The formula for the increase is by a percentage equal to the percentage of increase over the preceding three years for all items in the Consumer Price Index for urban Alaska.
- HB 273 is in the first committee of referral – HSE Ed – next committee is HSE Fin.



SB 34 – State-Tribal Education Compact Schools

Sen. Gary Stevens (R-Kodiak)

- A State Tribal Education Compact (STEC) would be considered a school district.
- Compacts would be with Federally recognized tribes (FRT).
- A STEC must follow all statutory requirements for non-STEC districts.
- STEC school may not charge tuition.
- STEC employees are state employees, but preferences may be allowed for a member of a FRT.
- If a STEC has applicants in excess of its capacity it may prioritize enrollment to members of the FRT.



SB 34 – State-Tribal Education Compact Schools

Sen. Gary Stevens (R-Kodiak)

- A STEC must provide special education services.
- Employees of a STEC may organize with all rights, including the right to strike.
- STEC employees participate in TRS/PERS, including requirements to contribute to retirement plans.
- SB 34 is in first committee of referral – Sen. Ed – next is Sen. Jud.



SB 72 – Secondary School Civics Education

Sen. Gary Stevens (R-Kodiak)

- The state board must develop a curriculum that includes government, citizenship, and history of governmental systems used in the US and Alaska, including those used by Alaska Natives.
- Students must pass a civics assessment developed by DEED.
- SB is in Sen. ED – next is Sen. Jud.



SB 80 – Public Schools Mental Health Education

Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson (D-Anchorage)

- DEED is to develop 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.
- Each district is **ENCOURAGED** to initiate and conduct a K-12 mental health program.
- This is a companion bill to HB 60.
- The bill has been through Sen Ed & HSS and is now in Sen Fin.



SB 111 – Alaska Academic Improvement and Modernization ACT (*Sen. Education Committee*)

- Companion bill to HB 164.
- Initiated a pre-K grant program.
- Requires districts to implement evidence-based reading program.
- Allows districts to count Pre-K students as .05 ADM.
- Districts may increase unreserved fund balance to 50% until FY 27. Thereafter the unreserved fund balance limit is 25%.
- Teachers applying for elementary education endorsements must have 3 credits of evidence based reading coursework.



SB 111 – Alaska Academic Improvement and Modernization ACT (*Sen. Education Committee*)

- Reading interventions are required for students who are not proficient.
- Unless a waiver is granted, a student not proficient in reading will not be advanced to the 4th grade.
- Many sessions have repeal dates attached.
- SB 111 is Sen. Fin, the final Senate committee of referral.



SB 119 – Oath of Office

Sen. Lora Reinbold (R-Eagle River)

- SB 80 would require newly elected school board members to Read the Constitution of the State of Alaska, the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution of the United States prior to assuming office.
- Bill has been through Sen Ed and is now in Sen. State Affairs. Next committee of referral is Sen. Judicial.