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HB 6 – Public Schools Opioid Awareness Program

1/9/2023 – Prefile Released; by Rep. Rauscher

1/19/2023 – Introduced; referred to the House Health & Social Services, Education, and Finance Committees

[HB 6](#) directs the Dept. of Education & Early Development to develop an opioid abuse awareness and prevention curriculum for students in 6th through 12th grade. The curriculum must provide at least an hour of instruction annually. School districts will be required to teach the curriculum during or as close to the last week in October as possible.

HB 21 – School/University Employee Health Insurance

1/9/2023 – Prefile Released; by Reps. Vance, McCabe

1/19/2023 – Introduced; referred to the House Community & Regional Affairs, Education, and Labor & Commerce Committees

[HB 21](#) allows school employers to elect to participate in an insurance policy selected by the commissioner of the Dept. of Administration. See [the bill](#) for details on requirements.

HB 27 – Designate Sex for School-Sponsored Sports

1/9/2023 – Prefile Released; by Rep. McKay

1/19/2023 – Introduced; referred to the House Education and Health & Social Services Committees

[HB 27](#) requires public schools and private schools that compete against public schools to designate sports as male, female, or coeducational, and require that students competing on female teams be female as designated by their biological sex.

Students who suffer harm from a violation of HB 27 may sue for injunctive relief, damages, and any other relief available under law against the violating school. Schools and school districts may also sue.

HB 31 – Alaska Performance Scholarship; Eligibility

1/9/2023 – Prefile Released; by Rep. Story

1/19/2023 – Introduced; referred to the House Education and Finance Committees

[HB 31](#) expands eligibility for Alaska Performance Scholarships. Students will be able to qualify through a career cluster in career and technical education.

HB 31 contains other provisions related to the APS. It informs students of their scholarship eligibility by not later than September 30 of their senior year. It removes the

requirement for a college entrance exam and the requirement to attend an in-state institution. It increases the amount of scholarships, with the highest level of scholarship being \$7,000, instead of the current \$4,755. It also extends the date by which students must use their scholarship from six years to eight years.

See [the bill](#) for all details.

HB 39 – FY24 Operating Budget

1/19/2023 – Introduced; by the House Rules Committee at the request of the Governor; referred to the House Finance Committee

1/25/2023 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee

Under [HB 39](#) there is full statutory funding for the foundation formula, pupil transportation, school bond debt reimbursement, and the REAA Fund deposit (which is calculated based on the amount paid for school bond debt reimbursement.)

- \$1,124,632,300 for the foundation formula
- \$72,568,348 for pupil transportation
- \$67,168,161 for school bond debt reimbursement
- \$27,897,00 for the REAA Fund

Legislative Finance Division documents on the budget, including operating budget reports and subcommittee books, are on their [website](#).

HB 40 – FY24 Capital Budget

1/19/2023 – Introduced; by the House Rules Committee at the request of the Governor; referred to the House Finance Committee

[HB 40](#) is the FY24 capital budget. There are no education-related projects in the bill. The Legislative Finance Division has information on the capital budget on their [website](#).

HB 41 – FY24 Mental Health Budget

1/19/2023 – Introduced; by the House Rules Committee at the request of the Governor; referred to the House Finance Committee

[HB 41](#) is the FY24 mental health budget. It includes:

- \$547,800 for student and school achievement
- \$219,100 for the Governor’s Council on Disabilities & Special Education

HB 44 – Cultural Education Program

1/23/2023 – Introduced; by Rep. Story; referred to the House Education and Finance Committees

[HB 44](#) establishes a cultural education program in the Dept. of Education & Early Development. The department will be required to establish standards for culturally responsive curriculum, assessments, and professional development. The program will be required to have at least three staff members. The department will support school districts with curriculum development and modification so that the curriculum meets culturally based standards appropriate to the region the school district serves.

In addition, HB 44 requires the state to provide \$1,000 for each student in kindergarten through grade three who is determined to have a reading deficiency.

SB 9 – Alaska Sunset Commission

1/9/2023 – Prefile Released; by Sen. Hughes

1/18/2023 – Introduced; referred to the Senate State Affairs, Judiciary, and Finance Committees

[SB 9](#) establishes a sunset commission to “*review and make recommendations on discontinuation of or changes to state entities.*” The Dept. of Education & Early Development would be reviewed and recommendations would be made in 2028.

Commission members will consist of nine members of the public who have finance experience.

SB 11 – Teachers & Public Employee Retirement Plans

1/9/2023 – Prefile Released; by Sen. Kiehl

1/18/2023 – Introduced; referred to the Labor & Commerce and Finance Committees

[SB 11](#) relates to restoration of tenure for certain disabled individuals and allows members Permanent Fund PERS and TRS to choose between a defined benefit and a defined contribution retirement plan.

SB 14 – RIP for Public Employees/Teachers

1/9/2023 – Prefile Released; by Sens. Kawasaki, Gray-Jackson

1/18/2023 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Education, Labor & Commerce, and Finance Committees

[2/3/2023](#) – Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee

The title of [SB 14](#) states, “*An Act relating to reemployment of persons who retire under the teachers’ retirement system as mentors; relating to retirement incentives for members of the defined benefit retirement plan of the teachers’ retirement system and the defined benefit retirement plan of the Public Employees Retirement System of Alaska; and providing for an effective date.*”

SB 24 – Public Schools: Mental Health Education

1/9/2023 – Profile Released; by Sens. Gray-Jackson, Tobin, Claman

1/18/2023 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Education, Health & Social Services, and Finance Committees

[SB 24](#) adds mental health to the health topics encouraged to be taught by public schools. It requires the State Board of the Dept. of Education & Early Development to “*establish guidelines for developmentally appropriate instruction in mental health. In developing guidelines for developmentally appropriate instruction in mental health, the state board shall consult with the Dept. of Health, the Dept. of Family & Community Services, regional tribal health organizations, and representatives of national and state mental health organizations.*”

SB 25 – Repealing Funds, Accounts, and Programs

1/9/2023 – Profile Released; by Sen. Kaufman

1/18/2023 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Finance Committee

[SB 25](#) would repeal a number of funds including the curriculum improvement and best practices fund. When asked about this legislation last year (which Sen. Kaufman sponsored as a representative), he stated the curriculum improvement and best practices fund was an inactive fund that has never been funded.

SB 29 – Civics Education; Establish Alaska Civics Education Commission

1/9/2023 – Profile Released; by Sens. Stevens, Tobin, Giessel, Bjorkman, Claman

1/18/2023 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Education and Finance Committees

[SB 29](#) requires schools to not issue a diploma to students who have not completed a civics education course using the curriculum the Dept. of Education & Early Development will be required to develop under the bill and who have not achieved a passing score of at least 70 percent on their test.

School districts will be required to report a description of civics courses offered by their district, average student performance on the civics test, and other civics curriculum information as required by the department. The department will be required to include this information in their annual report to the legislature.

SB 29 establishes the Alaska Civics Education Commission in DEED. The commission will consist of 12 members, with the lieutenant governor serving as chair. The commission will include a member of the Alaska Supreme Court. See [the bill](#) for a full list of members and for rules for the commission.

SB 40 – FY24 Operating Budget

1/18/2023 – Introduced; by the Senate Rules Committee at the request of the Governor; referred to the Senate Finance Committee

1/24/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee

1/30/2023 – Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Finance Committee

Under [SB 40](#) there is full statutory funding for the foundation formula, pupil transportation, school bond debt reimbursement, and the REAA Fund deposit (which is calculated based on the amount paid for school bond debt reimbursement.)

- \$1,124,632,300 for the foundation formula
- \$72,568,348 for pupil transportation
- \$67,168,161 for school bond debt reimbursement
- \$27,897,00 for the REAA Fund

Legislative Finance Division documents on the budget, including operating budget reports and subcommittee books, are on their [website](#).

SB 41 – FY24 Capital Budget

1/18/2023 – Introduced; by the Senate Rules Committee at the request of the Governor; referred to the Senate Finance Committee

1/26/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee

1/30/2023 – Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Finance Committee

[SB 41](#) is the FY24 capital budget. There are no education-related projects in the bill. The Legislative Finance Division has information on the capital budget on their [website](#).

SB 42 – FY24 Mental Health Budget

1/18/2023 – Introduced; by the Senate Rules Committee at the request of the Governor; referred to the Senate Finance Committee

1/30/2023 – Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Finance Committee

SB 42 is the FY24 mental health budget. It includes:

- \$547,800 for student and school achievement
- \$219,100 for the Governor’s Council on Disabilities & Special Education

SB 43 – Health & Personal Safety Education

1/18/2023 – Introduced; by Sens. Gray-Jackson, Tobin; referred to the Senate Education and Health & Social Services Committees

[SB 43](#) requires school districts to include in their report to the Dept. of Education & Early Development and parents “*a summary and evaluation of the curriculum used by the school*

for the health and personal safety education program.” SB 43 requires schools to add personal safety to their health education. Instead of being encouraged to provide a program in health, school districts will be required to provide program in health and personal safety. See [the bill](#) for more details.