

SB 133: PUBLIC SCHOOL EXIT EXAM

BY SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

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Sec.	Statute	Existing	Changes
1	Uncodified law	None.	New section INTENT added. The intent of this Act is to encourage schools and districts to develop endorsements, implement reasonable testing procedures, and that the exam should focus on skills one is expected to know in order to function in society.
2	AS 14.03.075 added by sec. 1 ch. 58, SLA 1997 Education, Libraries, and Museums Public Schools Generally General Provisions Secondary <u>student</u> [PUPIL] competency <u>examination</u> [TESTING]	A pupil cannot be issued a high school diploma unless that student passes a competency examination. A pupil who fails the exam shall receive a certificate of attendance and may be reexamined not more often than once every three months and must pass the test within three years of ceasing to attend school.	In addition to passing the test, the student can receive a waiver from the governing body. Students who fail the test will not get a certificate of attendance. The procedures for reexamination are to be established by the department.
3	AS 14.03.075 added by sec. 1 ch. 58, SLA 1997	None.	New subsections added. A student will receive an endorsement on their diploma for each part of the exam passed. A student with a disability who fails the exam is eligible for a diploma if they complete their IEP or 504 plan and meet other graduation requirements. The department will establish standards for pre-examination study materials, administration procedures, and the awarding of waivers and procedures for recording exam results on transcripts.
4	AS 14.03.120(d) Education, Libraries, and Museums Public Schools Generally Education planning	Each public school must provide a report of their performance annually. The report must include various types of information which are intended to show the performance of the school.	The report must also include the number of students who received a diploma under a waiver.

Sec.	Statute	Existing	Changes
5	AS 14.07.165 Education, Libraries, and Museums Administration of Public Schools State Board of Education Duties	The board must adopt statewide goals, require local goals and adopt various regulations for grants, charter schools, boarding schools, etc.	The board must also adopt regulations implementing the exams, including criteria and procedure for waivers which includes provisions that the student satisfy the performance standards to the maximum extent possible.
6	Section 3, ch. 58, SLA 1997 Education, Libraries, and Museums Public Schools Generally General Provisions Secondary pupil competency testing	This Act takes effect January 1, 2002.	This Act takes effect February 1, 2004.
7	Uncodified law	None.	New section APPLICABILITY added. The standards and requirements required by AS 14.03.075 as amended by this Act apply to students who graduate on or after February 1, 2004.
8	Uncodified law	None.	New section TRANSITION: ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION added. Between February 1, 2002 and January 31, 2004, each student is required to take a competency examination or alternative assessment and meet academic requirements established by the state and local school board in order to receive a diploma. The department will determine the form and contents of the exam. A student will receive an endorsement on their diploma for each section of the exam passed.
9	Uncodified law	None.	New section TRANSITION: REGULATIONS added. The department may immediately proceed to adopt regulations necessary to implement the changes made by this Act. The regulations will take effect when the changes take effect.
10	Uncodified law	None.	New section REPORT added. The department shall deliver a report to the Legislature that describes proposed criteria and procedures for waivers by January 31, 2003.
11	Effective date		Sections 2-5 of this Act take effect February 1, 2004.
12	Effective date		Sections 6 and 9 of this Act take effect immediately.
13	Effective date		The rest of this Act takes effect February 1, 2002.