

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE PEGGY WILSON

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HB 457

“Providing for Differentiated Secondary School Diplomas.”

I’ve heard many concerns as to what will happen to those students who are unable to pass the high school exit exam. In response to those concerns I have introduced [HB 457](#).

I support the exit exam however I believe a basic diploma should be available to those students who meet all the local requirements yet for various reasons are unable to pass the exit exam. An employer or institution of higher education could then have a discussion with the graduate as to their strengths and weaknesses.

Under HB 457 there would be three possible diplomas available to students. The Basic Diploma for those who meet the local schools graduation requirements, but fail the exit exam. The Enhanced Diploma for those students who meet the local schools graduation requirements **and** pass the exit exam. The Advanced Diploma for those students who meet the local schools requirements, and pass the exit exam, **plus** have additional advance placement classes that are consistent with academic excellence and count towards their college degree. Under my proposed legislation the students who in the past would not receive a diploma due to not meeting local requirements would not qualify for one under this bill either.

I ask your support of HB 457 “Differentiated Secondary School Diploma”.