

**Estimate of Costs to the State of Alaska for Implementation of the Voter Initiative 19SEBR:
Alaska Student’s Educational Bill of Rights**

Multi Agency Cost Summary

Agency	Cost
Department of Education and Early Development	***
University of Alaska	***
Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Division of Elections	\$91,154
TOTAL	***

Estimate of Costs to the Department of Education and Early Development

As required by AS 15.45.090(a)(4), the Department of Education and Early Development has prepared the following statement of cost to implement the Alaska Students’ Educational Bill of Rights proposed ballot initiative. The cost to implement this comprehensive initiative is currently indeterminate.

The ballot initiative would add a new subsection to the duties of the Department. The Department currently engages in several activities related to the proposed AS 14.07.020(a)(18). These subsections require additional direction to determine if the statutory change requires adjustment of current department policy, programs, and activities. If it is determined that adjustment of current department efforts is necessary, a regulations package would need to be produced and presented to the State Board of Education and Early Development for consideration and adoption.

Equally as important, several of the subsections are not under the discretion of the department. Article X of Alaska’s Constitution clearly provides for maximum local self-government. School districts in Alaska retain the authority, under the fiscal supervision of a city or borough, to make decisions regarding salaries and benefits, class size, caseloads, educator workloads, and course offerings, as examples.

Without additional detail, an accurate cost estimate cannot be developed at this time. Further, the impact of the additional detail required is an unknown variable. The department recommends the Alaska Legislature as the appropriate body to undertake the public process of defining the additional detail and direction required to prepare an accurate cost estimate for this comprehensive ballot initiative.

Estimate of Costs to the University of Alaska

As required by AS 15.45.090(a)(4), the University of Alaska has prepared the following statement of cost to implement the Alaska Students’ Educational Bill of Rights proposed ballot initiative. The cost to implement this comprehensive initiative is currently indeterminate.

The ballot initiative amends AS 14.40.170(a), Duties and powers of Board of Regents. Several of these activities are already being performed such as maintenance of university facilities, and coordination with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development. It is unclear to what

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extent additional resources would be required to accomplish the aspirational goals of this initiative and the University would need further clarification to determine the costs of such an initiative.

Estimate of Costs to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Division of Elections

As required by AS 15.45.090(a)(3), the Division of Elections has prepared the following statement of costs to implement the proposed ballot initiative.

The minimum cost to the Division of Elections associated with certification of the initiative application and review of the initiative petition, excluding legal costs to the state and the costs to the state of any challenge to the validity of the petition, is estimated to be \$91,154.

Estimate by Category

Personal Services	\$60,577
Printing Services	\$1,300
<u>Language Assistance</u>	<u>\$29,277</u>
TOTAL	\$91,154

Analysis of Fiscal Impact of Ballot Initiative

Initiative Petition Review

Personal Services: Six temporary employees to review signatures for 2,520 hours. Estimated cost: \$44,555.

Certification of the initiative application and review of the initiative petition estimated for 504 hours. Estimated cost: \$16,022.

Printing Services: Printing service expenses associated with certification of the initiative application and review of initiative petition including printing of voter booklets. Estimated cost: \$1,300.

Language Assistance

Translating the ballot measure language for audio and sample ballots, Official Election Pamphlet pro statement, Official Election Pamphlet con statement, and Official Election Pamphlet neutral summary into 11 languages required by the Toyukak Settlement and Section 203 of the Federal Voting Rights Act. Estimated cost: \$29,277.