



**Alaska Association of Student Government**

**Resolution #14**

**Health Education Requirement for the State of Alaska**

**Submitted by: Metlakatla High School Student Government**

**Written by: Reese Taylor**

**Submitted: 4/23/2025**

**Be it Resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that:**

1. **Whereas**, health education courses are not a graduation requirement under Alaska state law;
2. **Whereas**, Alaskan High Schools that do offer and/or require health education courses typically only offer a single semester of health education, or pair requirements for health education with Physical Education (PE) courses;
3. **Whereas**, the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has found that health education in schools can reduce risk-behaviors related to Sexually Transmitted Diseases and Infections (STDs & STIs), can reduce unintended teen pregnancies, and can decrease substance and tobacco use;<sup>3</sup>
4. **Whereas**, the CDC has also found that health education can increase positive behaviors among students, such as seeking help for mental health concerns, and increased academic performance;<sup>3</sup>
5. **Whereas**, in 2022, Alaska had the fastest rising rate of overdose deaths in the country due to fentanyl abuse;<sup>4</sup>
6. **Whereas**, deaths in Alaska related to alcohol poisoning doubled between 2019 and 2021;<sup>1</sup>
7. **Whereas**, teenagers in Alaska are 25.67% more likely to have used drugs in the last month than the average American teenager;<sup>2</sup>
8. **Whereas**, 10.47% of Alaskans aged 12-17 years old (approximately 6000 teenagers) reported using drugs in the last month;<sup>2</sup>
9. **Whereas**, Alaska has a rate of 16.9 births per 1000 females aged 15-19;<sup>5</sup>

**10. Whereas**, in 2023, diseases with the highest rates of transmission in Alaska were STDs and STIs;<sup>6</sup>

**Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments** supports requiring all Alaskan school districts to develop a comprehensive health education plan for high school students to implement at each district's discretion.

**Be it further resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments** encourages Alaskan High Schools to offer a varied health education curriculum throughout a student's high school career, ensuring that health education is reinforced beyond Freshman year.

**Action Statement:** If passed by the General Assembly of the Alaska Association of Student Governments, this resolution will be sent to the members of the Education Committees of the Alaska House and Senate, as well as the Department of Education and Early Development.

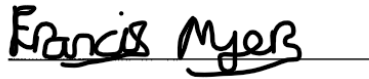
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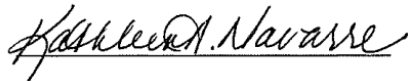
6. Rosen, Yereth. "Sexually Transmitted Infections top Alaska's annual disease list, reflecting high rates." *Alaska Beacon*. November 18, 2024. Retrieved from <https://alaskabeacon.com/2024/11/18/sexually-transmitted-infections-top-alaskas-annual-disease-list-reflecting-high-rates/#:~:text=In%202022%2C%20Alaska%20had%20the,higher%20than%20the%20national%20average>

*Resolution passes with noted opposition*

Passed by the Spring 2025 General Assembly of AASG hosted by Sitka High School and Mt Edgumbe High School



AASG Vice President, Francis Myers



AASG Executive Director, Kathleen Navarre