



RESOLUTION OF THE ALASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

in support of establishing a Green to Teach pathway

Resolution 01-2025

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska faces a critical shortage of qualified teachers, particularly in rural and high-need areas, which poses a significant challenge to providing an excellent education for every student every day; and

WHEREAS, military personnel possess valuable leadership, organizational, and instructional skills that can significantly contribute to the quality of education in Alaska's schools; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development passed a resolution in January 2023 directing the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) to develop alternative pathways to teacher certification in alignment with the recommendation from the Teacher Retention and Recruitment Playbook; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Transition to Teaching (AKT2) program, operated by DEED from 2009 to 2014, successfully allowed individuals with bachelor's degrees to earn post-baccalaureate teaching certificates through DEED-sponsored pathways; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense (USDOD) previously operated the "Troops to Teachers" program, which successfully transitioned military personnel into teaching careers and served as a model for alternative pathways to teacher certification; and

WHEREAS, DEED has the statutory authority under AS 14.20.020 to approve educator preparation programs and certify teachers in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, under AS 14.20.020, individuals seeking certification must, among other requirements, have received at least a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education accredited by a recognized regional accrediting association or approved by the commissioner;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development supports efforts by DEED to:

- A. Develop and implement the "Green to Teach" pathway to teacher certification, modeled after the former USDOL "Troops to Teachers" program, focusing on transitioning active military personnel, veterans, and their spouses into teaching careers in Alaska; and



- B. Identify fiscal resources to support the development and sustainability of alternative certification programs, as recommended by the Teacher Recruitment and Retention (TRR) Working Group on Alternative Certification Programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board recognizes the potential of the “Green to Teach” pathway to address teacher shortages, stabilize the educator workforce, and increase student achievement.

ADOPTED by the Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development, at the regular open public meeting thereof, held the 22nd day of January, 2025.

ATTEST: Alaska State Board of Education & Early Development

James Fields, Chair