

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## HB 1674

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**As Passed House:**  
January 30, 2020

**Title:** An act relating to changing the term alternative learning experience to personalized learning experience.

**Brief Description:** Changing the term alternative learning experience to personalized learning experience.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Rude, Steele, Santos, Jinkins, Bergquist and Doglio.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:**

Education: 2/5/19, 2/7/19 [DP], 1/13/20, 1/23/20 [DP].

**Floor Activity:**

Passed House: 3/7/19, 97-0.

**Floor Activity:**

Passed House: 1/30/20, 95-0.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Changes statutory references to alternative learning experiences, and associated provisions, to personalized learning experiences.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

**Majority Report:** Do pass. Signed by 17 members: Representatives Santos, Chair; Dolan, Vice Chair; Paul, Vice Chair; Steele, Ranking Minority Member; McCaslin, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Volz, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Bergquist, Caldier, Callan, Corry, Harris, Ortiz-Self, Rude, Stonier, Thai, Valdez and Ybarra.

**Staff:** Ethan Moreno (786-7386).

**Background:**

Alternative learning experience (ALE) programs provide a way for students to be enrolled in public education without being required to meet the in-class seat-time requirements for

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regular instruction. The ALE courses may be delivered via online courses, remote courses, or site-based courses. Courses offered through ALE programs may be provided to students residing outside of the district offering the course, and may be provided to full or part-time students. Districts providing ALE programs may claim state basic education funding for students enrolled in ALE courses and are obligated to satisfy annual reporting requirements.

**Summary of Bill:**

Statutory references to the ALEs and associated provisions are changed to personalized learning experiences. The terminology change is made through modifications to numerous statutes, including revisions to provisions governing:

- the establishment, operation, and financing of ALE programs;
- student truanancies; and
- staffing ratios for basic education certificated instructional staff.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:**

(In support) The bill passed the House of Representatives unanimously last session, but was held out of respect to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and a task force that was looking into associated name change matters. Names are important and the term "alternative" can have a stigma associated with it.

The bill could be improved based upon the ALE rebranding efforts of 2019. A name change, while not necessary, could be part of a broader rebranding effort that includes other policy changes. Stakeholders supported "personalized learning experience" as the preferred option for the new name.

(Opposed) None.

**Persons Testifying:** Representative Rude, prime sponsor; Rhett Nelson and Dave Mastin, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying:** None.