

Senate File 2029 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2029

BY JOCHUM

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the inclusion of age-appropriate sexual
2 abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention
3 information in academic standards and the health curriculum
4 for students in kindergarten through grade twelve.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 26, Code 2018, is
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *d.* When next revising rules adopted for
4 purposes of this subsection relating to statewide health
5 literacy academic standards and twenty-first century learning
6 goals for students in kindergarten through grade twelve, the
7 state board shall consider including age-appropriate content
8 in sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention
9 in the statewide health literacy academic standards and
10 twenty-first century learning goals for such students. The
11 state board shall also consider prescribing guidelines for the
12 inclusion of information on sexual abuse and sexual assault
13 awareness and prevention in the health curriculum offered and
14 taught under section 256.11. School districts, accredited
15 nonpublic schools, and area education agencies may provide
16 age-appropriate instruction in sexual abuse and sexual assault
17 awareness and prevention to students in kindergarten through
18 grade twelve, inclusive, as applicable. However, any student
19 in kindergarten through grade twelve shall be excused from
20 instruction in sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness
21 and prevention offered and taught in accordance with this
22 paragraph, section 256.11, or section 279.50, upon written
23 request of the student's parent or guardian.

24 EXPLANATION

25 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
26 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

27 This bill directs the state board of education to consider
28 including age-appropriate content in sexual abuse and sexual
29 assault awareness and prevention in the statewide health
30 literacy academic standards and 21st century learning goals
31 for such students, and to consider prescribing guidelines for
32 the inclusion of such information in the health curriculum
33 offered and taught by school districts and accredited nonpublic
34 schools. The bill also authorizes school districts, accredited
35 nonpublic schools, and area education agencies to provide such

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1 instruction, but requires that a student be excused from such
2 instruction if the student's parent or guardian submits a
3 written request to excuse the student.