

Senate File 167 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 167

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to instruction relating to gender identity in
2 the curriculum provided to students enrolled in elementary
3 education programs.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.11, subsections 2 and 3, Code 2021,
2 are amended to read as follows:

3 2. The kindergarten program shall include experiences
4 designed to develop healthy emotional and social habits and
5 growth in the language arts and communication skills, as well
6 as a capacity for the completion of individual tasks, and
7 protect and increase physical well-being with attention given
8 to experiences relating to the development of life skills and
9 human growth and development. A kindergarten teacher shall be
10 licensed to teach in kindergarten. An accredited nonpublic
11 school must meet the requirements of this subsection only
12 if the nonpublic school offers a kindergarten program. The
13 curriculum utilized for purposes of this subsection shall not
14 include instruction relating to gender identity as defined in
15 section 216.2.

16 3. The following areas shall be taught in grades one through
17 six: English-language arts, social studies, mathematics,
18 science, health, age-appropriate and research-based human
19 growth and development, physical education, traffic safety,
20 music, and visual art. Computer science instruction
21 incorporating the standards established under section 256.7,
22 subsection 26, paragraph "a", subparagraph (4), shall be
23 offered in at least one grade level commencing with the school
24 year beginning July 1, 2023. The health curriculum shall
25 include the characteristics of communicable diseases including
26 acquired immune deficiency syndrome. The state board as part
27 of accreditation standards shall adopt curriculum definitions
28 for implementing the elementary program. The curriculum
29 provided to a student in accordance with this subsection shall
30 not include instruction relating to gender identity, as defined
31 in section 216.2, unless the school district or accredited
32 nonpublic school obtains the prior written consent of the
33 student's parent or guardian. If a parent or guardian does not
34 provide written consent, a student may opt out of instruction
35 relating to gender identity.

1

EXPLANATION

2

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

3

4 This bill establishes that the curriculum utilized by a
5 school district or accredited nonpublic school in accordance
6 with the state's educational standards shall not include
7 instruction relating to gender identity. However, the
8 prohibition does not apply to the curriculum provided to a
9 student enrolled in grades one through six if the school
10 district or accredited nonpublic school obtains the prior
11 written consent of the student's parent or guardian. If
12 a school does not obtain a parent's or guardian's written
13 consent, the student may opt out of instruction relating to
14 gender identity.

15 Gender identity, for purposes of the bill, means a
16 gender-related identity of a person, regardless of the person's
17 assigned sex at birth.