

Senate File 66 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 66

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the health and human growth and development
2 instruction provided by school districts and accredited
3 nonpublic schools.

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

1 Section 1. Section 256.11, subsections 2, 3, and 4, Code
2 2023, 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 experiences relating to human growth and development shall
14 include instruction in identifying parts of the body as well as
15 age-appropriate and research-based information regarding the
16 importance of empathy and how to establish and respect physical
17 boundaries. For purposes of this subsection, "age-appropriate"
18 and "research-based" mean the same as defined in section 279.50.

19 3. The following areas shall be taught in grades one through
20 six: English-language arts, social studies, mathematics,
21 science, health, age-appropriate and research-based human
22 growth and development, physical education, traffic safety,
23 music, and visual art. Computer science instruction
24 incorporating the standards established under section 256.7,
25 subsection 26, paragraph "a", subparagraph (4), shall be
26 offered in at least one grade level commencing with the school
27 year beginning July 1, 2023. The health curriculum shall
28 include the characteristics of communicable diseases, including
29 acquired immune deficiency syndrome, and shall also include
30 instruction in identifying parts of the body. The human growth
31 and development curriculum shall include age-appropriate
32 and research-based information regarding the importance of
33 empathy and how to establish and respect physical boundaries.
34 The state board as part of accreditation standards shall
35 adopt curriculum definitions for implementing the elementary

1 program. For purposes of this subsection, "age-appropriate" and
 2 "research-based" mean the same as defined in section 279.50.

3 4. The following shall be taught in grades seven and
 4 eight: English-language arts; social studies; mathematics;
 5 science; health; age-appropriate and research-based human
 6 growth and development; career exploration and development;
 7 physical education; music; and visual art. Computer science
 8 instruction incorporating the standards established under
 9 section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph "a", subparagraph (4),
 10 shall be offered in at least one grade level commencing with
 11 the school year beginning July 1, 2023. Career exploration
 12 and development shall be designed so that students are
 13 appropriately prepared to create an individual career
 14 and academic plan pursuant to [section 279.61](#), incorporate
 15 foundational career and technical education concepts aligned
 16 with the six career and technical education service areas
 17 as defined in [subsection 5](#), paragraph "h", and incorporate
 18 relevant twenty-first century skills. The health curriculum
 19 shall include age-appropriate and research-based information
 20 regarding the characteristics of sexually transmitted
 21 diseases, including HPV and the availability of a vaccine
 22 to prevent HPV, and acquired immune deficiency syndrome.
 23 The human growth and development curriculum shall include
 24 age-appropriate and research-based information regarding how
 25 to give proper sexual consent, how to recognize proper sexual
 26 consent, how to identify sexually predatory behavior, the
 27 characteristics of healthy and unhealthy sexual relationships,
 28 and how to prevent sexual assault. The state board as part of
 29 accreditation standards shall adopt curriculum definitions for
 30 implementing the program in grades seven and eight. However,
 31 this subsection shall not apply to the teaching of career
 32 exploration and development in nonpublic schools. For purposes
 33 of [this section subsection](#), "age-appropriate", "HPV", and
 34 "research-based" mean the same as defined in [section 279.50](#).

35 Sec. 2. Section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph j,

1 subparagraph (1), Code 2023, is amended to read as follows:

2 (1) One unit of health education which shall include
3 personal health; food and nutrition; environmental health;
4 safety and survival skills; consumer health; family life;
5 age-appropriate and research-based human growth and
6 development; substance abuse and nonuse; emotional and
7 social health; health resources; and prevention and control
8 of disease, including age-appropriate and research-based
9 information regarding sexually transmitted diseases, including
10 HPV and the availability of a vaccine to prevent HPV, and
11 acquired immune deficiency syndrome. The one unit of health
12 education shall also include age-appropriate and research-based
13 information regarding how to give proper sexual consent,
14 how to recognize proper sexual consent, how to identify
15 sexually predatory behavior, the characteristics of healthy
16 and unhealthy sexual relationships, and how to prevent sexual
17 assault. For purposes of this subparagraph, "age-appropriate"
18 and "research-based" mean the same as defined in section 279.50.

19 EXPLANATION

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

22 This bill relates to the health and human growth and
23 development instruction provided by school districts and
24 accredited nonpublic schools.

25 The bill requires that the curriculum taught in kindergarten
26 and grades one through six in school districts and accredited
27 nonpublic schools include instruction in identifying parts of
28 the body. The bill also requires that the curriculum taught
29 in kindergarten and grades one through six in school districts
30 and accredited nonpublic schools include age-appropriate and
31 research-based information regarding the importance of empathy
32 and how to establish and respect physical boundaries.

33 The bill requires that the human growth and development
34 curriculum taught in grades 7 and 8 and the health curriculum
35 taught in grades 9 through 12 in school districts and

1 accredited nonpublic schools include age-appropriate and
2 research-based information regarding how to give proper
3 sexual consent, how to recognize proper sexual consent, how to
4 identify sexually predatory behavior, the characteristics of
5 healthy and unhealthy sexual relationships, and how to prevent
6 sexual assault.

7 The bill defines "age-appropriate" and "research-based".