

House File 2244 - Reprinted

HOUSE FILE 2244
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 594)

(COMPANION TO SF 2121 BY EVANS)

(As Amended and Passed by the House March 3, 2026)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to social studies instruction provided to
2 students enrolled in grades seven through twelve, and
3 including applicability provisions.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256E.7, subsection 2, paragraph h, Code
2 2026, is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

3 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (02) The educational standards of
4 section 256.11 relating to the social studies curriculum for
5 grades seven through twelve.

6 Sec. 2. Section 256F.4, subsection 2, Code 2026, is amended
7 by adding the following new paragraph:

8 NEW PARAGRAPH. *Ou.* Be subject to and comply with the
9 requirements of section 256.11 relating to the social studies
10 curriculum for grades seven through twelve in the same manner
11 as a school district.

12 Sec. 3. Section 256.11, subsection 4, paragraph a,
13 subparagraph (2), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

14 (2) Social studies, including instruction related to civics
15 and United States government. The instruction related to
16 civics and United States government shall consist of at least
17 one-half unit of credit, or the equivalent, during grade seven
18 or grade eight. For purposes of this subparagraph, a unit of
19 credit consists of a course or equivalent related components or
20 partial units taught throughout the academic year.

21 Sec. 4. Section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph b, Code
22 2026, is amended to read as follows:

23 *b.* (1) Five units of the social studies including
24 instruction in voting statutes and procedures, voter
25 registration requirements, the use of paper ballots and voting
26 systems in the election process, and the method of acquiring
27 and casting an absentee ballot. All students shall complete
28 a minimum of ~~one-half~~ one unit of civics and United States
29 government and one unit of United States history.

30 (2) The ~~one-half~~ one unit of civics and United States
31 government shall include the all of the following:

32 (a) The voting procedure as described in this lettered
33 paragraph and [section 280.9A](#). ~~The government instruction shall~~
34 also include a

35 (b) A study of the Constitution of the United States and the

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1 Bill of Rights contained in the Constitution and an assessment
2 of a student's knowledge of the Constitution and the Bill of
3 Rights.

4 Sec. 5. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to school years
5 beginning on or after July 1, 2028.