

HOUSE BILL No. 2236

By Committee on Education

1-31

1 AN ACT concerning education; relating to school districts; establishing
2 parents' right to direct the education and upbringing of their children
3 including the right to object to ~~harmful or inappropriate~~ educational
4 materials and activities **that are not included in approved**
5 **curriculum or standards or impair a parent's beliefs, values or**
6 **principles.**
7

8 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

9 Section 1. (a) Every parent of a child in this state has a right to direct
10 the education, upbringing and moral or religious training of such child.

11 (b) In accordance with the rights established under this section, each
12 parent of a student enrolled in any school district shall be permitted by
13 such school district to object to any educational materials or activities on
14 the basis that such material or activity ~~harms the student~~ **is not included in**
15 **the approved district curriculum or state educational standards** or
16 impairs the parent's sincerely held beliefs, values or principles and to
17 withdraw such student from the class or educational program in which the
18 material or activity is being provided. No student's academic records shall
19 be adversely affected by withdrawal from a class or educational program
20 pursuant to this section. ***Exemptions from required instruction granted***
21 ***pursuant to this section do not excuse a student from the responsibility***
22 ***to complete comparable alternative assignments offered to obtain credit***
23 ***in the course, the total semester hours required for attendance or***
24 ***required courses for graduation by any such withdrawal from a class or***
25 ***educational program pursuant to this section. If an activity or resource***
26 ***impairs a parent's belief or value, an agreed upon alternative activity or***
27 ***resource shall be utilized. When appropriate, the student may remain in***
28 ***the classroom, or a placement shall be provided to give the student***
29 ***instructional support.***

30 (c) The board of education of each school district shall adopt policies
31 and procedures to guarantee the free exercise of the rights established
32 under this section by the parents of students enrolled in such school
33 district. Such policies and procedures shall include provisions for
34 implementing subsection (b).

1 (d) As used in this section:

2 (1) "Activities" includes any presentation, assembly, lecture or other
3 event facilitated by a school or school district. "Activities" does not
4 include student presentations.

5 (2) "Educational materials" includes, but is not limited to, curriculum,
6 textbooks, reading materials, videos, digital materials, websites, online
7 applications and any other material given or provided to a student for
8 student instruction.

9 (3) "Parent" means a parent, legal guardian or custodian or any other
10 person who has authority to act on behalf of a child.

11 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
12 publication in the statute book.