

HOUSE BILL No. 2700

By Committee on Education

Requested by Representative Thomas

2-6

1 AN ACT concerning libraries; relating to public school libraries;
2 establishing the school library rating system task force; requiring the
3 development and implementation of a rating system for materials
4 offered by public school libraries.
5

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

7 Section 1. (a) There is established the school library rating system
8 task force. The task force shall consist of nine members as follows:

- 9 (1) One member shall be appointed by the state board of education;
10 (2) three members shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of
11 representatives:
12 (A) One of whom shall be a member of the house of representatives;
13 (B) one of whom shall be a parent of a student enrolled in a public
14 school in this state; and
15 (C) one of whom shall be a member of the board of education of a
16 school district or the superintendent of a school district;
17 (3) one member shall be appointed by the minority leader of the
18 house of representatives who shall be a member of the house of
19 representatives;
20 (4) two members shall be appointed by the president of the senate,
21 one of whom shall be a member of the senate and one of whom shall be a
22 parent of a student enrolled in a public school in this state;
23 (5) one member shall be appointed by the minority leader of the
24 senate who shall be a member of the senate; and
25 (6) one member shall be appointed by the Kansas association of
26 school librarians who shall be a school librarian.
27 (b) Any vacancy in the membership of the task force shall be filled in
28 the same manner as the original appointment.
29 (c) The member of the house of representatives appointed by the
30 speaker of the house of representatives pursuant to subsection (a)(2) shall
31 serve as chairperson of the task force. The member of the senate appointed
32 by the president of the senate pursuant to subsection (a)(4) shall serve as
33 vice chairperson of the task force.
34 (d) The task force may meet at any time and at any place within the
35 state on the call of the chairperson. A quorum of the task force shall be five

1 members. All actions of the task force shall be by motion adopted by a
2 majority of those members present when there is a quorum.

3 (e) Members of the task force attending meetings authorized by the
4 task force shall be paid amounts for expenses, mileage and subsistence as
5 provided in K.S.A. 75-3223(e), and amendments thereto.

6 (f) The task force shall develop a rating system for materials,
7 including, but not limited to, books, magazines, pamphlets and audio and
8 video recordings that are made available to students by public school
9 libraries. Such rating system shall consider that appropriateness of
10 materials with respect to grade level and provide a clear method of rating
11 such materials such that school district employees and parents and legal
12 guardians can readily discern whether such material is appropriate for a
13 student.

14 (g) On or before June 30, 2025, the task force shall approve the rating
15 system and submit such rating system to the state board of education. The
16 state board of education shall distribute the rating system to each school
17 district and may provide recommendations regarding the implementation
18 of such rating system.

19 (h) The provisions of this section shall expire on June 30, 2025.

20 Sec. 2. (a) On or before September 1, 2025, the board of education of
21 each school district shall adopt policies and procedures for the
22 implementation of the rating system approved by the school library rating
23 system task force pursuant to section 1, and amendments thereto. Such
24 rating system shall be fully implemented in all school libraries operated by
25 each school district on or before July 1, 2026.

26 (b) On or before January 15, 2026, the state board of education shall
27 prepare and submit a report to the governor and the legislature on the
28 rating system approved by the school library rating system task force
29 pursuant to section 1, and amendments thereto, and the status of such
30 system's implementation by school districts.

31 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
32 publication in the statute book.