

KANSAS OFFICE *of*  
**REVISOR *of* STATUTES**

LEGISLATURE *of* THE STATE *of* KANSAS  
*Legislative Attorneys transforming ideas into legislation.*

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Senate Committee on Education  
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Date: February 11, 2026  
Subject: SB 381—Requiring Communist and Socialist Ideologies Instruction and a Civics Exam

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Senate Bill 381 would require instruction to provide students with an understanding of communist and socialist regimes and ideologies and that students pass an American civics examination in order to graduate with a high school diploma.

Communist and Socialist Ideologies Instruction

Section 1 of SB 381 would enact a new section of law to require the state board of education to develop age and developmentally appropriate curriculum, materials and guidelines to provide students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade an understanding of communist and socialist regimes and ideologies. Additionally, each school district would be required to provide instruction to such students on understanding communist and socialist regimes and ideologies. School districts may use the curriculum, materials and guidelines developed by the state board.

Civics Examination

Section 2 would amend K.S.A. 72-3217 to require all students who enroll in ninth grade in any accredited public, private or parochial high school on or after July 1, 2026, to pass an examination on American civics. Students would be required to satisfactorily pass such examination to be certified as having completed the course requirements necessary for graduation from high school.

With regard to such examination, the bill also provides:

- Upon request, a student may be administered the examination any time after the student has enrolled in seventh grade.

- The student may take the examination as many times as is necessary to obtain a passing score.
- The examination may be administered as part of the United States government course required by subsection (b).
- The examination shall consist of 100 questions that are substantially similar to the questions administered by the United States citizenship and immigration services to applicants for United States citizenship through naturalization.
- For students with an IEP, the applicability of the requirement to take such exam would be governed by such student's IEP.

Additionally, SB 381 authorizes the state board of education to adopt rules and regulations to implement the examination requirements.

SB 381 makes certain technical amendments and would take effect on July 1, 2026, upon publication in the statute book.