

SENATE BILL No. 381

By Committee on Education

1-26

AN ACT concerning education; relating to curriculum for social studies; requiring instruction to provide students with an understanding of communist and socialist regimes and ideologies; requiring students pass an American civics examination in order to graduate with a high school diploma; amending K.S.A. 72-3217 and repealing the existing section.

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

New Section 1. (a) To provide students with essential knowledge and skills for the social studies curriculum, the state board of education shall develop age and developmentally appropriate curriculum, materials and guidelines to provide students in grades kindergarten through 12 with an understanding of communist and socialist regimes and ideologies.

(b) Each school district shall provide instruction to students in grades kindergarten through 12 on understanding communist and socialist regimes and ideologies and may use the curriculum, materials and guidelines developed by the state board of education.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 72-3217 is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-3217. (a) All accredited schools, *whether* public, private or parochial, shall provide and give *all students* a complete course of instruction ~~to all pupils~~, in civil government, ~~and~~ United States history; and in patriotism and the duties of a citizen, suitable to the elementary grades; ~~in addition thereto~~.

(b) All accredited high schools, *whether* public, private or parochial, shall give a course of instruction concerning the government and institutions of the United States; and, particularly ~~of~~, the constitution of the United States; ~~and no~~. Any student who has not taken and satisfactorily passed such course shall *not* be certified as having completed the course requirements necessary for graduation from high school.

(c) (1) *All students who enroll in grade nine in any accredited public, private or parochial high school on or after July 1, 2026, shall be required to pass an examination on the principles of American civics. Any student who does not satisfactorily pass such examination shall not be certified as having completed the course requirements necessary for graduation from high school.*

(2) *Upon request, a student may be administered the examination required by this subsection at any time after such student has enrolled in*

1 grade seven, and such student may take the examination as often as
2 necessary to obtain a passing score. At the discretion of the board of
3 education of the school district or the governing body of any accredited
4 private or parochial high school, the examination may be administered as
5 part of the curriculum required under subsection (b).

6 (3) The examination required by this subsection shall consist of 100
7 questions that are substantially similar to the questions administered by
8 the United States citizenship and immigration services to applicants for
9 United States citizenship through naturalization.

10 (4) The applicability of this subsection and the extent to which
11 accommodations are provided, if any, to a student with an individualized
12 education program (IEP) shall be governed by such student's IEP.

13 (5) The state board of education may adopt rules and regulations to
14 implement the provisions of this subsection, including, but not limited to,
15 providing a model examination for use by any school district or the
16 governing body of any accredited private or parochial high school and
17 establishing the passing score for any such model examination.

18 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 72-3217 is hereby repealed.

19 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
20 publication in the statute book.