



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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H.B. 256

130th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Sykes and Wachtmann, Ashford, Boyd, Celebrezze, Curtin, Fedor, R. Hagan, C. Hagan, Mallory, Letson, Strahorn, Stinziano, Williams, Patterson, Reece, Heard, Winburn, Amstutz, Hackett, Smith, Beck, Buchy, Damschroder, Driehaus, Henne, Foley

BILL SUMMARY

- Repeals the current prohibition on the State Board of Education from adopting or revising any standards or curriculum in the area of health unless the standards, curriculum, or revisions are approved by both houses of the General Assembly through concurrent resolution.
- Requires the State Board to adopt either (1) the most recent health education standards developed by the American Association for Health Education or (2) health education standards developed and prescribed by the State Board itself.
- Requires the State Board to provide the adopted standards, and any revisions to the standards, to all public schools in the state.
- Permits any school or district to utilize the standards.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Health education standards and curriculum

The bill repeals current law that prohibits the State Board of Education from adopting or revising any standards or curriculum in the area of health unless the standards, curriculum, or revisions are approved by both houses of the General Assembly through a concurrent resolution. Additionally, the bill repeals a provision that requires both the House Education and Senate Education committees to conduct at

least one public hearing on the standards, curriculum, or revisions prior to voting on the concurrent resolution.¹

The bill also enacts a new provision that requires the State Board to adopt either (1) the most recent health education standards developed by the American Association for Health Education (AAHE) or (2) health education standards developed and prescribed by the State Board itself. However, if the State Board develops and prescribes its own standards, these standards must be based upon the national standards developed by the AAHE.²

Following the adoption of the health education standards, the State Board must provide the standards to all public schools in the state, including school districts, community schools, STEM schools, and college-preparatory boarding schools. Any school or district is explicitly permitted, but not required, to utilize the standards.³

Background on the National Health Education Standards

The most recent health education standards developed by the American Association for Health Education (AAHE) are the "National Health Education Standards" (NHES). The NHES were developed by the Joint Committee on National Health Education Standards, which included the AAHE, the American Public Health Association, the American School Health Association, and the Society of State Leaders of Health and Physical Education. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website, the NHES are "written expectations for what students should know and be able to do" by specified grade levels "to promote personal, family, and community health."⁴ The standards provide a framework for curriculum development, but do not contain specific curriculum or content and do not address any specific health content areas.

Since the bill was originally drafted, the American Association for Health Education (AAHE) unified with other national and district associations to become the

¹ Current R.C. 3301.0718, repealed by the bill (text of the section not in the bill).

² New R.C. 3301.0718(A), enacted by the bill.

³ New R.C. 3301.0718(B).

⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For access, go to <http://www.cdc.gov/> and complete the following steps: at the top of the page in the menu bar entitled "A-Z Index," click on the "A"; under the heading entitled "A," click on the link entitled "Adolescent Health"; under the heading entitled "Home" on the left-hand side of the page, click on the second link entitled "School Health"; and under the heading entitled "School Health" on the left-hand side of the page, click on the third link entitled "National Health Education Standards."



American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (AAHPERD). Previously, AAHE was one of five national associations affiliated with AAHPERD.⁵

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	08-29-13

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⁵ See www.aahperd.org/aahe.

