



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Conference Committee Synopsis

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Am. Sub. S.B. 165

129th General Assembly

The Conference Committee recommends the bill as passed by the House of Representatives with the following changes:

Topic	Senate Version	House Version	Conference Committee Recommendation
Grade level specification for social studies standards, model curricula, and achievement standards	Requires the State Board of Education, no later than July 1, 2012, to incorporate into social studies standards, model curricula, and achievement assessments, content about the Declaration of Independence, Northwest Ordinance, U.S. Constitution and its amendments, and Ohio Constitution. Presumably, the State Board must adopt standards for all grades, K to 12, since the bill does not specify any grade levels. <i>(R.C. 3301.079(A)(1)(b).)</i>	Same as Senate version, but specifies grades 4 to 12 as the grade levels for which the State Board must incorporate the required content. <i>(R.C. 3301.079(A)(1)(b).)</i>	House version.

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Suggested supplemental readings	No provision.	No provision.	Requires the State Board to make available a list of suggested grade-appropriate supplemental readings that place the required documents in their historical context, which teachers may use as a resource to help students in reading the documents within that context. <i>(R.C. 3301.079(A)(1)(b).)</i>
"Original" vs. "historical" context	Requires state standards and high school instruction to address the documents' "historical" context. <i>(R.C. 3301.079(A)(1)(b) and 3313.603(M).)</i>	Requires state standards and high school instruction to address the documents' "original" context. <i>(R.C. 3301.079(A)(1)(b) and 3313.603(M).)</i>	House version.
State end-of-course examinations	No provision.	Adds a history and government end-of-course exam (in addition to the social studies exam required by current law) as a component of the college and work-ready assessments that are being developed to replace the Ohio Graduation Test. Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction and Chancellor of the Board of Regents to select an end-of-course exam no later than July 1, 2014, that demonstrates mastery of American history and American government content. Requires that at least 25% of the exam address the historical documents enumerated by the bill. <i>(R.C. 3301.0712(B)(2) and (3)(b).)</i>	Eliminates the existing requirement for a social studies end-of-course exam and replaces it with separate exams for American history and American government. Retains the House deadline of July 1, 2014, for selection of the state exams, but specifies that 20% (instead of 25%) of the American government exam must address the enumerated historical documents. <i>(R.C. 3301.0712(B)(2) and (3)(b); conforming changes in R.C. 3313.61 and 3313.612.)</i>

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Local interim end-of-course examinations	No provision.	Not later than July 1, 2013, requires each school district board of education, each community school, and each STEM school to adopt an interim end-of-course examination in history and government to be used by public high schools until the Superintendent and Chancellor adopt the state exam described above. <i>(R.C. 3301.0712(B)(3)(a).)</i>	House version, but specifies that there must be separate exams for American history and American government, as with the state exams. <i>(R.C. 3301.0712(B)(3)(a).)</i>
Valid educator license	No provision.	Specifies that a valid educator license in social studies is sufficient to teach the additional American history and American government content required by the bill. <i>(R.C. 3319.23.)</i>	House version.
Demonstrated mastery of geography and U.S. and Ohio history and government	No provision.	Revises the current law requiring "basic instruction" in geography and U.S. and Ohio history and government before a student may study other social studies topics by permitting "demonstrated mastery" of geography and U.S. and Ohio history and government as an alternative to "basic instruction." <i>(R.C. 3313.60(D).)</i>	House version.
State Board review of Revised Code for impediments to implementation	No provision.	Requires the State Board of Education to review the Revised Code for any provisions that may impede the implementation of the American history and government content and to recommend	House version.



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		legislation to the General Assembly to address any issues it finds not later than July 1, 2012. (Section 3.)	
Delivery of content in summer school and other methods	No provision.	Specifies that nothing in the bill limits the ability of a school district or a public or nonpublic school to offer the academic content required in the bill from being offered through summer school, online, or any other method of education offered by the district or the school. (Section 4.)	House version.

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