

1 HB496
2 150869-1
3 By Representative Todd
4 RFD: Education Policy
5 First Read: 02-APR-13

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, there are certain
9 minimum contents which are included in a sex
10 education program or curriculum.

11 This bill would remove from the minimum
12 contents the emphasis that homosexuality is not an
13 acceptable lifestyle and the emphasis that
14 homosexual conduct is a criminal act.

15 This bill would also require that all
16 material taught be done in a culturally sensitive
17 manner.

18
19 A BILL
20 TO BE ENTITLED
21 AN ACT
22

23 To amend Section 16-40A-2, Code of Alabama 1975,
24 relating to the minimum contents that are included in a sex
25 education program or curriculum; to remove from the minimum
26 contents the emphasis that homosexuality is not an acceptable
27 lifestyle and the emphasis that homosexual conduct is a

1 criminal act; and to require that all material taught be done
2 in a culturally sensitive manner.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. Section 16-40A-2, Code of Alabama 1975,
5 is amended to read as follows:

6 "§16-40A-2.

7 "(a) Any program or curriculum in the public schools
8 in Alabama that includes sex education or the human
9 reproductive process shall, as a minimum, include and
10 emphasize the following:

11 "(1) Abstinence from ~~sexual intercourse~~ sex is the
12 only completely effective protection against ~~unwanted~~
13 pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and acquired immune
14 deficiency syndrome (AIDS) when transmitted sexually.

15 "(2) Abstinence from ~~sexual intercourse~~ sex outside
16 of ~~lawful~~ marriage is the expected social standard for
17 ~~unmarried~~ school-age persons.

18 "(b) Course materials and instruction that relate to
19 sexual education or sexually transmitted diseases should be
20 age-appropriate and culturally sensitive.

21 "(c) Course materials and instruction that relate to
22 sexual education or sexually transmitted diseases should
23 include all of the following elements:

24 "(1) An emphasis on sexual abstinence as the only
25 completely reliable method of avoiding ~~unwanted~~ teenage
26 pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

1 "(2) An emphasis on the importance of self-control
2 and ethical conduct pertaining to sexual behavior.

3 "(3) Statistics based on the latest medical
4 information that indicate the degree of reliability and
5 unreliability of various forms of contraception, while also
6 emphasizing the increase in protection against pregnancy and
7 protection against sexually transmitted diseases, including
8 HIV and AIDS infection, which is afforded by the use of
9 various contraceptive measures.

10 "(4) Information concerning the laws relating to the
11 financial responsibilities associated with pregnancy,
12 childbirth, and child rearing.

13 "(5) Information concerning the laws prohibiting
14 sexual abuse, the need to report such abuse, and the legal
15 options available to victims of sexual abuse.

16 "(6) Information on how to cope with and rebuff
17 unwanted physical and verbal sexual exploitation by other
18 persons.

19 "(7) Psychologically sound methods of resisting
20 unwanted peer pressure.

21 "~~(8) An emphasis, in a factual manner and from a
22 public health perspective, that homosexuality is not a
23 lifestyle acceptable to the general public and that homosexual
24 conduct is a criminal offense under the laws of the state.~~

25 "~~(9)~~ (8) Comprehensive instruction in parenting
26 skills and responsibilities, including the responsibility to
27 pay child support by non-custodial parents, the penalties for

1 non-payment of child support, and the legal and ethical
2 responsibilities of child care and child rearing."

3 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
4 first day of the third month following its passage and
5 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.