

ARIZONA STATE SENATE Fifty-Fifth Legislature, First Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1058

schools; learning materials; activities

Purpose

Requires district and charter schools to post a list of learning materials and activities used for student instruction during the previous school year including procedures used to review and approve learning materials.

Background

School district governing boards must develop a policy promoting the involvement of parents and guardians in their child's school. The policy must include procedures by which parents may learn about the course of study, review learning materials and activities or object to any learning material or activity (<u>A.R.S. § 15-102</u>).

Statute grants parents of students in a public educational institution the right to review any learning materials or activities. Parents may request to withdraw their student from a class or program if they object to any learning material or activity on the basis that the material or activity is harmful (A.R.S. § 15-113).

On written request, school personnel must make at least one copy of the instructional materials available for review by parents or guardians. Printed textbooks, supplementary books and subject matter materials can be taken by parents or guardians for review from school district premises for no longer than 48 hours (A.R.S. § 15-730).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

- 1. Requires each district and charter school to post, by July 1 of each year, on a prominent, publicly accessible portion of its website, a list that includes:
 - a) learning materials and activities used for student instruction at the school during the prior school year organized, at minimum, by subject and grade;
 - b) procedures for the principal, administrators or teachers to document, review or approve learning materials and activities; and
 - c) either a table of contents or internet address disclosing the works and authors contained within digital volumes by multiple authors.
- 2. Directs each district or charter school to list only the information necessary to identify the specific learning materials and activities, including the title, author, organization or internet address.

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- 3. States that the required list does not need to include:
 - a) digital reproduction of learning materials or activities; or
 - b) individual components produced as a single volume, except digital volumes containing works from multiple authors.
- 4. Exempts, from the requirement to post a list, the following:
 - a) school district governing boards or charter school governing bodies responsible for the operation of schools with fewer than 500 students cumulatively;
 - b) learning materials or activities selected independently by instructors at a school with fewer than 50 students; or
 - c) learning materials or activities used exclusively for students participating in remedial or special education services.
- 5. Defines *activities* to include presentations, assemblies, lectures and other educational events facilitated by the public educational institution's staff or outside individuals or organizations, excluding student presentations.
- 6. Defines *learning materials* to include textbooks and reading materials, videos, digital materials, websites and online applications.
- 7. Defines *used for student instruction* as:
 - a) assigned, distributed or otherwise presented to students in any course for which students receive academic credit;
 - b) any educational capacity which the public educational institution requires participation from the student body or a majority of students in a given grade level; or
 - c) learning materials or activities from which students are required to choose one or more from a selection of specific titles.
- 8. Makes technical and conforming changes.
- 9. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

Prepared by Senate Research January 8, 2021 JO/JP/gs