

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2393

## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BLAND MANLOVE.

4833H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

To repeal section 170.011, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to civics courses of instruction.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 170.011, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 170.011, to read as follows:

170.011. 1. **(1)** Regular courses of instruction in the Constitution of the United States and of the state of Missouri and in American history and institutions shall be given in all public and private schools in the state of Missouri, except proprietary schools, and shall begin not later than the ~~seventh~~ **sixth** grade and continue in high school to an extent determined by the state commissioner of education, and shall continue in college and university courses to an extent determined by the state commissioner of higher education. ~~[In the 1990-91 school year and each year thereafter, local school districts maintaining high schools shall comply with the provisions of this section by offering in grade nine, ten, eleven, or twelve]~~

**(2)** As described in subdivision (3) of this subsection, each local school district shall provide a course of instruction in the institutions, branches and functions of the government of the state of Missouri, including local governments, and of the government of the United States, and in the electoral process. A local school district maintaining ~~such~~ a high school shall require that prior to the completion of the twelfth grade each pupil who receives a high school diploma or certificate of graduation on or after January 1, 1994, shall satisfactorily complete such a course of study. Such course shall be of at least one semester in length and may be two semesters in length. The department of elementary and secondary

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets ~~thus~~ in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 education may provide assistance in developing such a course if the district requests  
19 assistance. A school district may elect to waive the requirements of this ~~[subsection]~~  
20 **subdivision** for any student who transfers from outside the state to a Missouri high school if  
21 the student can furnish documentation deemed acceptable by the school district of the  
22 student's successful completion in any year from the ninth through the twelfth grade of a  
23 course of instruction in the institutions, branches, and functions of state government,  
24 including local governments, and of the government of the United States, and in the electoral  
25 process.

26 **(3) (a) In the 1990-91 school year and each subsequent school year ending before**  
27 **July 1, 2023, local school districts maintaining high schools shall comply with the**  
28 **requirement to offer a course of instruction as provided in subdivision (2) of this**  
29 **subsection by offering such course in grade nine, ten, eleven, or twelve.**

30 **(b) In the 2023-24 school year and each subsequent school year, local school**  
31 **districts shall comply with the requirement to offer a course of instruction as provided**  
32 **in subdivision (2) of this subsection by offering such course at least once in grade six,**  
33 **seven, or eight and at least once in grade nine, ten, eleven, or twelve.**

34 2. American history courses at the elementary and secondary levels shall include in  
35 their proper time-line sequence specific referrals to the details and events of the racial  
36 equality movement that have caused major changes in United States and Missouri laws and  
37 attitudes.

38 3. No pupil shall receive a certificate of graduation from any public or private school  
39 other than private trade schools unless ~~[he or she]~~ **the pupil** has satisfactorily passed an  
40 examination on the provisions and principles of the Constitution of the United States and of  
41 the state of Missouri, and in American history, American institutions, and American civics. A  
42 school district may elect to waive the requirements of this subsection for any student who  
43 transfers from outside the state to a Missouri high school if the student can furnish  
44 documentation deemed acceptable by the school district of the student's successful  
45 completion in any year from the ninth through the twelfth grade of a course of instruction  
46 in the institutions, branches, and functions of state government, including local governments,  
47 and of the government of the United States, and in the electoral process. A student of a  
48 college or university, who, after having completed a course of instruction prescribed in this  
49 section and successfully passed an examination on the United States Constitution, and in  
50 American history and American institutions required hereby, transfers to another college or  
51 university, is not required to complete another such course or pass another such examination  
52 as a condition precedent to his graduation from the college or university.

53 4. In the 1990-91 school year and each year thereafter, each school district  
54 maintaining a high school may annually nominate to the state board of education a student

55 who has demonstrated knowledge of the principles of government and citizenship through  
56 academic achievement, participation in extracurricular activities, and service to the  
57 community. Annually, the state board of education shall select fifteen students from those  
58 nominated by the local school districts and shall recognize and award them for their academic  
59 achievement, participation and service.

60         5. The provisions of this section shall not apply to students from foreign countries  
61 who are enrolled in public or private high schools in Missouri, if such students are foreign  
62 exchange students sponsored by a national organization recognized by the department of  
63 elementary and secondary education.

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