

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 492

## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE GRIER.

0187H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

### AN ACT

To repeal section 170.231, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to inspection of classroom instructional material.

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

Section A. Section 170.231, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 170.231, to read as follows:

170.231. **1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:**

**(1) "Classroom instruction", any school instruction involving students and teachers or students and peers;**

**(2) "Instructional material":**

**(a) Any items such as those described in paragraph (b) of this subdivision that are:**

**a. Created and published primarily for use by teachers and students in school instruction, such as classroom instruction, nonstudent presentations, assemblies, lectures, and nonstudent-led discussion groups; and**

**b. Required by a school board or a charter school's governing body for use by students in the classroom, such as materials that require the availability of electronic equipment to be used as a learning resource; and**

**(b) Instructional material includes, but is not limited to:**

**a. Textbooks including, but not limited to, digital textbooks or content;**

**b. Mandatory and optional reading materials, whether printed or digital, and all lists from which pupils are required to select reading materials;**

**c. Websites;**

**d. Films and movies;**

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 e. Online applications used for pupil instruction; and

19 f. Online databases;

20 (3) "Research or experimentation program or project", any school research or  
21 experimentation program or project designed to explore or develop new and unproven  
22 teaching methods and techniques;

23 (4) "School", any public school or charter school.

24 2. The school board of each school district and the governing body of each charter  
25 school shall provide that all [public] school instructional material intended for use in connection  
26 with any [public] school classroom instruction, or any [public] school research or  
27 experimentation program or project, shall be available for inspection by any person. [~~For the  
28 purpose of this section, "classroom instruction" shall mean any public school instruction  
29 involving teachers and students or peers and students; "research or experimentation program or  
30 project" shall mean any public school research or experimentation program or project designed  
31 to explore or develop new and unproven teaching methods and techniques.]~~

32 3. (1) For all school years beginning on or after July 1, 2022, the school board of  
33 each school district and the governing body of each charter school shall develop and  
34 enforce a policy governing the inspection of instructional material. The policy shall  
35 incorporate the provisions listed in subdivision (2) of this subsection and may incorporate  
36 additional provisions that assist and enhance inspection of instructional material.

37 (2) The policy shall:

38 (a) Require each school to make at least one printed and one digital copy of the  
39 instructional material available for review for the entire school year;

40 (b) Designate at least one school employee in each school who is responsible for  
41 maintaining an inspectable record of the instructional material used in the school for the  
42 current school year;

43 (c) Identify the location at the school where a person may access and inspect the  
44 instructional material;

45 (d) Identify the prominent location on the school's website where a person may  
46 access a complete listing of instructional material used in the previous year, designated by  
47 grade and subject area, as described in subsection 4 of this section;

48 (e) Describe how a person may submit a written request to inspect printed or digital  
49 instructional material;

50 (f) Describe the method by which printed instructional material may be taken from  
51 the school premises for inspection and require any person taking instruction material from  
52 the premises to return the instructional material within forty-eight hours; and

53           **(g) Describe the method by which electronic access will be granted for a person to**  
54 **inspect digital instructional material used at the school.**

55           **4. Each school shall post in a prominent location on its website a listing of the**  
56 **instructional material used in the previous school year on or before August first of each**  
57 **year. The listing shall be designated by grade and subject matter and include the title,**  
58 **author, organization, or website associated with the individual items of instructional**  
59 **material used. This subsection shall not be construed to require the digital reproduction**  
60 **of the entirety of the instructional material used in the previous school year.**

61           **5. If a school maintains a student handbook, the school shall include the policy**  
62 **developed under subsection 3 of this section in the student handbook. Each school shall**  
63 **annually provide a printed or digital copy of the policy to each child's parent, guardian,**  
64 **or other person having custody or care of the child at the time the child is enrolled in the**  
65 **school.**

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