

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

3 SENATE BILL 1676

By: Dahm

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021,  
8 Sections 11-103.12 and 11-103.13, which relate to the  
9 Health Education Act; modifying purpose of act;  
10 defining terms; modifying health education topics to  
11 be taught; removing language requiring development of  
12 certain micro-credential; requiring development of  
13 standards and benchmarks on certain topics; removing  
14 language regarding certification of teachers assigned  
15 to certain stand-alone course; directing the State  
16 Department of Education to review and the State Board  
17 of Education to approve certain curricula and  
18 materials; requiring school districts to use certain  
19 Board-approved curricula and materials; removing  
20 language requiring the State Textbook Committee to  
21 review certain materials; allowing each school  
22 district to post on its website certain notification  
23 allowing written consent for instruction on certain  
24 topics; requiring certain instruction to be provided  
25 in a separate classroom; requiring notification to  
26 include certain link; requiring submission of certain  
27 annual report by certain date; directing the State  
28 Board of Education to establish certain complaint  
29 process; authorizing the Board to report a school as  
30 deficient for certain noncompliance; updating  
31 statutory language and references; providing an  
32 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

33 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

1 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 11-103.12,  
2 is amended to read as follows:

3 Section 11-103.12. A. ~~Sections 1 through 3~~ This section and  
4 Sections 11-103.13 and 11-103.14 of this ~~act~~ title shall be known  
5 and may be cited as the "Health Education Act".

6 B. The purpose of ~~this act~~ the Health Education Act is to:

7 ~~1. Ensure students receive instruction in health, particularly~~  
8 ~~at an early age when habits are formed;~~

9 ~~2. Support the health and well-being of children that have been~~  
10 ~~affected by traumatic experiences;~~

11 ~~3. Improve academic outcomes for students; and~~

12 ~~4. Improve the overall health outcomes of Oklahoma's population~~  
13 provide students with the knowledge and skills they need to be  
14 healthy throughout their lives.

15 C. The State Board of Education may promulgate rules to  
16 implement the provisions of ~~this act~~ the Health Education Act.

17 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 11-103.13,  
18 is amended to read as follows:

19 Section 11-103.13. A. As used in the Health Education Act:

20 1. "Benchmark" means identifying what the student will know and  
21 be able to do by the end of each grade level;

22 2. "Health education" means providing students with knowledge  
23 and skills they need to be healthy throughout their lives including

1 motivating students to maintain and improve their health by way of  
2 nutrition, physical exercise, and physical activities;

3 3. "Nutrition" means the total processes involved in the taking  
4 in and utilization of food substances by which growth, repair, and  
5 maintenance of the body are accomplished; and

6 4. "Standard" means a general statement that identifies what  
7 the student is expected to achieve.

8 B. Health education shall be taught in the public schools of  
9 this state. Health education shall ~~include but is not be~~ be limited to  
10 physical health, ~~mental health, social and emotional health and~~  
11 ~~intellectual health~~ physical exercise, physical activities, and  
12 nutrition.

13 ~~B. C.~~ C. By the 2022-2023 school year, the State Department of  
14 Education shall:

15 1. Develop a ~~micro-credential for teachers who are assigned the~~  
16 ~~responsibility of teaching health education~~ standards and benchmarks  
17 for nutrition and physical education; and

18 2. Develop professional development programs that are designed  
19 to help teachers provide instruction in health education and  
20 incorporate the curriculum into existing coursework and instruction  
21 where appropriate. The professional development provided as part of  
22 ~~this act~~ the Health Education Act shall not be construed to be in  
23 addition to existing professional development requirements.

1       ~~C.~~ D. By the 2023-2024 school year, school districts shall  
2 provide instruction addressing all health education subject matter  
3 standards, as adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to  
4 Section 11-103.6 of ~~Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title.  
5 Health education may be integrated into one or more existing  
6 subjects or provided as an addition to existing coursework.

7       ~~D.~~ ~~Teachers assigned to teach health education as a stand-alone~~  
8 ~~course shall be certified in physical and health education. The~~  
9 ~~State Department of Education is authorized to issue a provisional~~  
10 ~~certificate, valid for not more than two (2) years, to individuals~~  
11 ~~assigned to teach a stand-alone health education course in order to~~  
12 ~~afford the individual the opportunity to obtain certification in~~  
13 ~~physical and health education~~

14       E. The State Department of Education shall review and the State  
15 Board of Education shall approve all digital and hard copies of  
16 curricula, materials, supplementary materials, tests, surveys, and  
17 questionnaires related to implementation of the Health Education  
18 Act. For statewide consistency, transparency, and accountability,  
19 all public school districts in this state shall use the Board-  
20 approved curricula, materials, supplementary materials, tests,  
21 surveys, and questionnaires.

22       ~~E.~~ ~~The State Textbook Committee shall include a review of~~  
23 ~~health and physical education instructional materials as part of its~~  
24 ~~textbook review and adoption cycle~~

1       F. 1. Each school district may post on its website a  
2 notification that the parent or legal guardian of an enrolled  
3 student may provide written consent for the school district to  
4 provide the student instruction on biological reproductive health,  
5 sexual consent, sexual behavior and attitudes, and mental health  
6 topics. Such instruction shall be provided in a classroom separate  
7 from the classroom where health education is being provided.

8       2. The notification on the school district's website shall  
9 include a link for the student's parent or legal guardian to access  
10 and review all curricula, materials, supplementary materials, tests,  
11 surveys, and questionnaires to be used in the instruction provided  
12 for in this subsection.

13       G. By July 1 each year, each school district shall  
14 electronically submit an annual report to the State Department of  
15 Education describing how instruction required by subsection B of  
16 this section was provided during the previous school year.

17       H. The State Board of Education shall establish a process by  
18 which individuals who believe a violation of the Health Education  
19 Act has occurred may submit a written complaint. Upon a finding by  
20 the State Board of Education that a school district violated the  
21 Health Education Act, the Board is authorized to report a school as  
22 deficient on the accreditation report for noncompliance.

23       SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2024.

1           SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
2 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby  
3 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
4 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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