

STATE OF KANSAS

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GOVERNOR LAURA KELLY

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR
REGARDING VETO OF HOUSE BILL 2039

The Kansas Constitution endows our state Board of Education with the authority to set the curriculum for our public schools. We should let the state Board of Education do that job, not the Legislature. This is legislative overreach. Should the Legislature wish to modify curriculum, I encourage the Legislature to collaborate with the State Board of Education.

Therefore, under Article 2, Section 14(a) of the Constitution, I hereby veto House Bill 2039.

THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

BY THE GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laura Kelly", written over a horizontal line.

DATED

4.22.21

HOUSE BILL No. 2039

AN ACT concerning education; relating to courses of instruction; requiring a civics examination and a personal financial literacy course for high school graduation; amending K.S.A. 72-3217 and 72-3236 and repealing the existing sections.

WHEREAS, To cultivate a commitment to civic participation and to become active members of communities, students need regular opportunities to engage in civic learning activities; and

WHEREAS, Opportunities for civic engagement must be part of a systematic approach that includes the school, classrooms, teachers and students; and

WHEREAS, The legislature supports the civic advocacy network established by the state board of education as a way to recognize exemplary schools and school districts that have made civic engagement an integral part of the school culture; and

WHEREAS, The state board of education discontinued the 60-item objective history, government and social studies assessment and implemented a subjective performance task assessment; and

WHEREAS, To assist with future educational policies designed to promote and enhance civics education in schools, some objective measurable results are necessary to assess whether all students are receiving basic civics knowledge and skills; and

WHEREAS, A free and publicly available civics practice test consisting of 20 multiple choice questions that school districts and educators may use to implement the provisions of this act can be accessed through the United States citizenship and immigration services website at <https://my.uscis.gov/prep/test/civics>.

Now, therefore:

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 72-3217 is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-3217. (a) All accredited schools, public, private or parochial, shall provide and give a complete course of instruction to all ~~pupils~~ students, in civil government; and United States history, and in patriotism and the duties of a citizen, suitable to the elementary grades; ~~in addition thereto.~~

(b) (1) (A) All accredited high schools, public, private or parochial, shall give a course of instruction concerning the government and institutions of the United States, and particularly of the constitution of the United States; ~~and no.~~ *In school year 2021-2022, such course of instruction shall provide to each student enrolled in such course a basic civics test, or series of tests, comprising a total of 60 questions selected randomly from the questions of the civics examination administered by the United States citizenship and immigration services. In school year 2022-2023 and each school year thereafter, students enrolled in such course of instruction shall be required to pass such basic civics test, or series of tests. Such test or tests may be administered through the multiple choice civics practice tests provided online by the United States citizenship and immigration services. Any student who has not taken and satisfactorily passed such course shall not be certified as having completed the course requirements necessary for graduation from high school.*

(B) *Each accredited high school shall submit to the state board of education an annual report that provides aggregate student achievement data for the basic civics testing required pursuant to this subsection. The state board shall compile such reports, prepare a summary report and submit such report to the legislature on or before January 31 of each year. All data submitted pursuant to this paragraph shall comply with the provisions of the student data privacy act in K.S.A. 72-6312 et seq., and amendments thereto.*

(2) (A) *In school years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024, all accredited high schools, public, private or parochial, shall implement and give a course of instruction concerning personal financial literacy for grades 10, 11 or 12 using the state curriculum standards for personal financial literacy developed by the state board of education pursuant to K.S.A. 72-3236, and amendments thereto.*

(B) *Beginning in school year 2024-2025 and each school year thereafter, any student who has not satisfactorily passed such personal financial literacy course shall not be certified as having completed the course requirements necessary for graduation from high school.*

(3) *The applicability of this subsection and the extent to which accommodations are provided, if any, to a student with an individualized education program (IEP) shall be governed by such student's IEP.*

(4) *The state board of education may adopt rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this subsection.*

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 72-3236 is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-3236. (a) ~~In order~~To equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to become self-supporting and ~~to~~ enable students to make critical decisions regarding personal finances, the state board of education shall authorize and assist in the implementation of programs on teaching personal financial literacy.

(b) The state board of education shall develop a curriculum, materials and guidelines that local boards of education and governing authorities of accredited nonpublic schools may use ~~in implementing to~~ *implement* the program of instruction on personal financial literacy. The state board of education shall adopt a glossary of personal financial literacy terms which shall be used by school districts when implementing the program on personal financial literacy.

(c) The state board of education shall develop state curriculum standards for personal financial literacy, ~~for all grade levels, for kindergarten and grades one through nine~~ within the existing mathematics curriculum or another appropriate subject-matter curriculum, *and for grades 10, 11 and 12 in accordance with subsection (d).*

~~(d) The state board of education shall encourage school districts when selecting textbooks for mathematics, economics, family and consumer science, accounting or other appropriate courses, to select those textbooks which contain substantive provisions on personal finance, including personal budgeting, credit, debt management and other topics concerning personal financial literacy.~~

~~(e) The state board of education shall include questions relating to personal financial literacy in the statewide assessments for mathematics or social studies required under K.S.A. 72-5170, and amendments thereto. When the statewide assessments for mathematics or social studies are reviewed or rewritten, the state board of education shall examine the questions relating to personal financial literacy and rewrite such questions in order to determine if programs on personal financial literacy are equipping students with the knowledge and skills needed to become self-supporting and enabling students to make critical decisions regarding personal finances. A course of instruction concerning personal financial literacy shall be at least one semester or two quarters or the equivalent thereof, and shall include, but not be limited to, the following topics:~~

~~(1) Saving and investing, including, but not limited to, understanding investments, wealth building and college savings;~~

~~(2) credit and debt, including, but not limited to, topics concerning the dangers of excessive debt, consumer awareness, credit bureaus, payday and car title loans and collection practices;~~

~~(3) financial responsibility and money management, including, but not limited to, topics concerning budgeting and negotiating techniques; and~~

~~(4) insurance, risk management and income, including, but not limited to, topics concerning insurance coverage, taxes, real estate rent or purchase options, mortgages and automobile and personal loans.~~

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 72-3217 and 72-3236 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

I hereby certify that the above BILL originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

HOUSE adopted
Conference Committee Report _____

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.

Passed the SENATE
as amended _____

SENATE adopted
Conference Committee Report _____

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.

APPROVED _____

Governor.