

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 284

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BLAND MANLOVE.

0813H.02I

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

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

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Section A. Section 170.011, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 170.011, to read as follows: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 education may provide assistance in developing such a course if the district requests assistance. A school district may elect to waive

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

24 **(3) (a) In the 1990-91 school year and each school year thereafter ending on or**
25 **before June 30, 2022, local school districts maintaining high schools shall comply with the**
26 **requirement to offer a course of instruction as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection**
27 **by offering such course in grade nine, ten, eleven, or twelve.**

28 **(b) In the 2022-23 school year and each school year thereafter, local school districts**
29 **shall comply with the requirement to offer a course of instruction as provided in**
30 **subdivision (2) of this subsection by offering such course at least once in grade six, seven,**
31 **or eight and at least once in grade nine, ten, eleven, or twelve.**

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

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

50 4. In the 1990-91 school year and each year thereafter, each school district maintaining
51 a high school may annually nominate to the state board of education a student who has
52 demonstrated knowledge of the principles of government and citizenship through academic
53 achievement, participation in extracurricular activities, and service to the community. Annually,

54 the state board of education shall select fifteen students from those nominated by the local school
55 districts and shall recognize and award them for their academic achievement, participation and
56 service.

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

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