

HOUSE BILL No. 2039

By Representative Huebert

1-6

1 AN ACT concerning education; relating to ~~civics~~ *{courses of}* instruction;
2 requiring ~~students to pass~~ a civics examination *{and a personal*
3 *financial literacy course}* for high school graduation; amending K.S.A.
4 72-3217 *{and 72-3236}* and repealing the existing ~~section~~ *{sections}*.

5
6 **WHEREAS, To cultivate a commitment to civic participation and**
7 **to become active members of communities, students need regular**
8 **opportunities to engage in civic learning activities; and**

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

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

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

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

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

28 **Now, therefore:**

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

30 Section 1. K.S.A. 72-3217 is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-
31 3217. (a) All accredited schools, public, private or parochial, shall provide
32 and give a complete course of instruction to all ~~pupils~~ *students*, in civil
33 government; and United States history, and in patriotism and the duties of
34 a citizen, suitable to the elementary grades; ~~in addition thereto.~~

1 **(b) (1)** All accredited high schools, public, private or parochial, shall
2 give a course of instruction concerning the government and institutions of
3 the United States, and particularly of the constitution of the United States;
4 ~~and no. Such course of instruction shall require students to pass a~~
5 **basic civics test, or series of tests, comprising a total of 60 questions**
6 **selected randomly from the questions of the civics examination**
7 **administered by the United States citizenship and immigration**
8 **services. Such test or tests may be administered through the multiple**
9 **choice civics practice tests provided online by the United States**
10 **citizenship and immigration services. Any student who has not taken and**
11 **satisfactorily passed such course shall not be certified as having completed**
12 **the course requirements necessary for graduation from high school.**

13 ~~(c) (1) All students who enroll in grade nine in any accredited public,~~
14 ~~private or parochial high school on or after July 1, 2021, shall be required~~
15 ~~to pass an examination on the principles of American civics. The~~
16 ~~examination shall consist of 100 questions that are substantially similar to~~
17 ~~the questions administered by the United States citizenship and~~
18 ~~immigration services to applicants for United States citizenship through~~
19 ~~naturalization. Any student who does not satisfactorily pass such~~
20 ~~examination shall not be certified as having completed the course~~
21 ~~requirements necessary for graduation from high school.~~

22 ~~(2) Upon request, a student may be administered the examination at~~
23 ~~any time after such student has enrolled in grade seven, and may take the~~
24 ~~examination as often as necessary to obtain a passing score. The~~
25 ~~examination may be administered as part of the instruction required under~~
26 ~~subsection (b).~~

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

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

38 **(4)** The state board of education may adopt rules and regulations to
39 implement the provisions of this subsection, including, but not limited to,
40 providing a model examination for use by any school district or the
41 governing body of any accredited private or parochial high school and
42 establishing the passing score for any such model examination.

43 **{Sec. 2. K.S.A. 72-3236 is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-**

1 ~~3236. (a) In order~~ *To equip students with the knowledge and skills*
2 *needed to become self-supporting and to enable students to make critical*
3 *decisions regarding personal finances, the state board of education shall*
4 *authorize and assist in the implementation of programs on teaching*
5 *personal financial literacy.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4 Sec. ~~2~~ {3.} K.S.A. 72-3217 ~~is~~ **{and 72-3236 are}** hereby repealed.

5 Sec. ~~3~~ {4.} This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
6 publication in the statute book.