

**First Regular Session  
Sixty-sixth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 07-0670.01 Richard Sweetman

**HOUSE BILL 07-1292**

---

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Todd**, Butcher, Casso, Kerr A., Massey, McKinley, Merrifield, and Solano

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Windels**,

---

**House Committees**  
Education

**Senate Committees**

---

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101     **CONCERNING THE ADOPTION OF SCIENCE-BASED CONTENT STANDARDS**  
102     **FOR INSTRUCTION REGARDING HUMAN SEXUALITY.**

---

**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not necessarily reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted.)*

Requires school districts, family resource centers, and teen pregnancy prevention programs that offer instruction regarding human sexuality to adopt science-based content standards for such instruction. Specifies the minimum requirements for a school district curriculum concerning human sexuality.

---

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
3 hereby finds that:

4 (a) The United States has one of the highest teenage pregnancy  
5 rates in the developed world, and the state of Colorado ranks  
6 twenty-second in the nation in total teen pregnancies, with approximately  
7 twelve thousand one hundred thirty girls becoming pregnant before their  
8 eighteenth birthdays each year;

9 (b) The state of Colorado ranks twenty-ninth in the nation in total  
10 incidences of sexually transmitted diseases;

11 (c) It is estimated that twenty percent of teen pregnancies in  
12 Colorado will result in abortions.

13 (2) The general assembly further finds that:

14 (a) Current research documents the fact that those individuals who  
15 receive early, comprehensive, age-appropriate, and medically accurate  
16 education regarding the health benefits and other benefits derived from  
17 sexual abstinence, family planning, and birth control are more likely to  
18 delay sexual activity and engage in such activity with a higher degree of  
19 responsibility and safety; and

20 (b) Comprehensive sex education programs that complement the  
21 involvement and instruction of parents and respect the diversity and  
22 values of the state provide Colorado's youth with a foundation of  
23 information to help them make responsible and informed decisions.

24 (3) Therefore, the general assembly hereby declares that the  
25 objective of this act is to reduce the incidence of sexually transmitted  
26 diseases, pregnancy, and abortion among teenagers by ensuring that  
27 school districts, family resource centers, and teen pregnancy prevention

1 programs that offer instruction concerning human sexuality provide  
2 students the science-based information they need to make responsible  
3 decisions, including abstaining from sexual activity and, for those who  
4 become sexually active, the effective use of condoms or other means of  
5 contraception.

6 **SECTION 2.** 22-1-110.5, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended  
7 BY THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING NEW SUBSECTIONS to  
8 read:

9 **22-1-110.5. Education regarding human sexuality - prior**  
10 **written notice to parent - content standards.** (5) A SCHOOL DISTRICT,  
11 CHARTER SCHOOL, OR INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL THAT OFFERS  
12 INSTRUCTION REGARDING HUMAN SEXUALITY SHALL ADOPT CONTENT  
13 STANDARDS THAT ARE BASED ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, WHICH CONTENT  
14 STANDARDS SHALL:

15 (a) ENCOURAGE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT AND FAMILY  
16 COMMUNICATION;

17 (b) EMPHASIZE ABSTINENCE FROM HIGH-RISK BEHAVIORS AND  
18 TEACH THAT SEXUAL ABSTINENCE IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO AVOID  
19 PREGNANCY AND SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES AND INFECTIONS,  
20 INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO INSTRUCTION REGARDING HIV/AIDS,  
21 THE LINK BETWEEN HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS AND CERVICAL CANCER, AND  
22 THE AVAILABILITY OF THE HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS VACCINE;

23 (c) INCLUDE INSTRUCTION TO HELP STUDENTS DEVELOP SKILLS FOR  
24 MAKING RESPONSIBLE DECISIONS ABOUT SEXUALITY, INCLUDING HOW TO  
25 AVOID UNWANTED VERBAL, PHYSICAL, AND SEXUAL ADVANCES AND HOW  
26 TO AVOID MAKING UNWANTED VERBAL, PHYSICAL, AND SEXUAL  
27 ADVANCES;

1 (d) INCLUDE DISCUSSION OF HOW ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE IMPAIRS  
2 RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING;

3 (e) BE AGE-APPROPRIATE, CULTURALLY SENSITIVE, AND  
4 MEDICALLY ACCURATE;

5 (f) PROVIDE INSTRUCTION ABOUT THE HEALTH BENEFITS AND  
6 POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS OF USING CONTRACEPTIVES AND BARRIER  
7 METHODS TO PREVENT PREGNANCY, INCLUDING INSTRUCTION REGARDING  
8 EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION AND THE AVAILABILITY OF CONTRACEPTIVE  
9 METHODS; AND

10 (g) NOT PROMOTE RELIGIOUS VALUES; EXCEPT THAT NOTHING IN  
11 THIS PARAGRAPH (g) SHALL BE INTERPRETED TO PROHIBIT DISCUSSION OF  
12 MORAL, ETHICAL, OR RELIGIOUS VALUES AS THEY PERTAIN TO HUMAN  
13 SEXUALITY.

14 (6) SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND INSTITUTE  
15 CHARTER SCHOOLS ARE ENCOURAGED TO INVOLVE PARENTS AND  
16 COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONTENT  
17 STANDARDS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION AND TO  
18 INTEGRATE AVAILABLE COMMUNITY RESOURCES INTO PROGRAMS  
19 PROVIDING INSTRUCTION REGARDING HUMAN SEXUALITY.

20 **SECTION 3.** 22-25-104 (3) (a), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
21 amended to read:

22 **22-25-104. Colorado comprehensive health education program**  
23 **- role of department of education - recommended curriculum**  
24 **guidelines - allocation of funds - rules and regulations.** (3) (a) With  
25 the assistance of parents, school districts, the department of public health  
26 and environment, the Colorado commission on higher education, and  
27 other interested parties, the department of education shall develop

1 recommended guidelines for the implementation of local comprehensive  
2 health education programs. THE GUIDELINES DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO  
3 THIS SUBSECTION (3) SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION  
4 22-1-110.5.

5 **SECTION 4.** 22-25-110 (2), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
6 amended to read:

7 **22-25-110. Funding of existing programs - operation of other**  
8 **health education programs.** (2) Nothing in this article shall be  
9 interpreted to require a school district or board of cooperative services to  
10 establish a local comprehensive health education program nor shall it be  
11 interpreted to prevent a school district or board of cooperative services  
12 from offering a health education program which is not operated under the  
13 requirements of this article; except that any school district or board of  
14 cooperative services offering such a health education program shall:

15 (a) Comply with the public information requirements contained  
16 in section 22-25-106 (4); and

17 (b) Establish a procedure to exempt a student, upon request of the  
18 parent or guardian of such student, from a specific portion of the health  
19 education program on the grounds that it is contrary to the religious  
20 beliefs and teachings of the student or the student's parent or guardian;

21 AND

22 (c) COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SECTION  
23 22-1-110.5 (5) REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF SCIENCE-BASED CONTENT  
24 STANDARDS FOR INSTRUCTION REGARDING HUMAN SEXUALITY.

25 **SECTION 5.** 26-18-104 (2) (d) (IV), Colorado Revised Statutes,  
26 is amended to read:

27 **26-18-104. Program created.** (2) (d) A family resource center

1 may also provide services, including, but not limited to, the following:

2 (IV) Outreach, education, and support programs, including  
3 programs aimed at preventing teen pregnancies and school dropouts, ~~and~~  
4 programs providing parent support and advocacy, AND PROGRAMS  
5 PROVIDING INSTRUCTION REGARDING HUMAN SEXUALITY; EXCEPT THAT  
6 A FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER THAT PROVIDES INSTRUCTION CONCERNING  
7 HUMAN SEXUALITY SHALL ADOPT SCIENCE-BASED CONTENT STANDARDS  
8 TO ENSURE THAT ANY INSTRUCTION CONCERNING HUMAN SEXUALITY  
9 THAT IS PROVIDED SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 22-1-110.5  
10 (5), C.R.S., AS IF THE PROGRAM WERE PROVIDED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT.

11 **SECTION 6.** 25.5-5-603 (2) (b), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
12 amended to read:

13 **25.5-5-603. Program - teen pregnancy and dropout**  
14 **prevention.** (2) (b) Such services may include, but shall not be limited  
15 to, the following services or combination of services:

16 (I) Intensive individual or group counseling, which includes a  
17 component on delayed parenting;

18 (II) Vocational, health, and educational guidance;

19 (III) Public health services such as home visits or visiting nurse  
20 services; AND

21 (IV) INSTRUCTION CONCERNING HUMAN SEXUALITY; EXCEPT THAT  
22 THE DEPARTMENT, IN PROVIDING A TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION  
23 PROGRAM THAT PROVIDES INSTRUCTION CONCERNING HUMAN SEXUALITY,  
24 SHALL ADOPT SCIENCE-BASED CONTENT STANDARDS TO ENSURE THAT ANY  
25 INSTRUCTION CONCERNING HUMAN SEXUALITY THAT IS PROVIDED  
26 SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 22-1-110.5 (5), C.R.S., AS IF  
27 THE PROGRAM WERE PROVIDED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT.

1           **SECTION 7. Effective date.** This act shall take effect July 1,  
2 2007.

3           **SECTION 8. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
4 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
5 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.