By:  Talarico H.B. No. 4157

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to science curriculum in public schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Section 28.002(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  Each school district that offers kindergarten through grade 12 shall offer, as a required curriculum:

(1)  a foundation curriculum that includes:

(A)  English language arts;

(B)  mathematics;

(C)  science~~; and~~, including the long-term problem of human-caused climate change and its effects, and bioregionalism, which allows us to understand our reliance on the places we live and to appreciate the plant and animal ecosystems, the watersheds, the landforms and the human cultures connected to these regions; and

(D)  social studies, consisting of Texas, United States, and world history, government, economics, with emphasis on the free enterprise system and its benefits, and geography; and

(2)  an enrichment curriculum that includes:

(A)  to the extent possible, languages other than English;

(B)  health, with emphasis on the importance of proper nutrition and exercise;

(C)  physical education;

(D)  fine arts;

(E)  career and technology education;

(F)  technology applications;

(G)  religious literature, including the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and New Testament, and its impact on history and literature; and

(H)  personal financial literacy.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2021.