

By: Vasut

H.B. No. 196

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the inclusion of instruction regarding the beginning of human life in the health curriculum for public school students.

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

(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:

(i) physical health, including the importance of proper nutrition and exercise;

(ii) mental health, including instruction about mental health conditions, substance abuse, skills to manage emotions, establishing and maintaining positive relationships, and

1 responsible decision-making; ~~and~~

2 (iii) suicide prevention, including
3 recognizing suicide-related risk factors and warning signs; and

4 (iv) instruction that human life begins at
5 conception and has inherent dignity and immeasurable worth from the
6 moment of conception;

7 (C) physical education;

8 (D) fine arts;

9 (E) career and technology education;

10 (F) technology applications;

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

14 (H) personal financial literacy.

15 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2025-2026
16 school year.

17 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.