House File 2449 - Introduced

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring that human growth and development instruction
2   provided by school districts include instruction on consent.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 279.50, subsection 2, Code 2022, is
2 amended to read as follows:
3 2. Each school board shall provide age-appropriate and
4 research-based instruction in human growth and development
5 including instruction regarding human sexuality, self-esteem,
6 stress management, interpersonal relationships and consent,
7 domestic abuse, HPV and the availability of a vaccine to
8 prevent HPV, and acquired immune deficiency syndrome as
9 required in section 256.11, in grades one through twelve.
10 Sec. 2. Section 279.50, subsection 9, Code 2022, is amended
11 by adding the following new paragraph:
12 NEW PARAGRAPH. *0b.* *"Consent"* means affirmative, conscious,
13 and voluntary agreement to engage in sexual activity. It is a
14 responsibility of each person involved in sexual activity to
15 ensure that the other or others consent to engage in the sexual
16 activity. Consent must be ongoing throughout a sexual activity
17 and can be revoked at any time.
18 EXPLANATION

19 **The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with**
20 **the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.**

21 This bill provides that age-appropriate and research-based
22 instruction in human growth and development, which each school
23 board shall provide to students enrolled in grades 1 through
24 12, must include instruction regarding consent. The bill
25 defines "consent" as affirmative, conscious, and voluntary
26 agreement to engage in sexual activity. It is a responsibility
27 of each person involved in sexual activity to ensure that the
28 other or others consent to engage in the sexual activity.
29 Consent must be ongoing throughout a sexual activity and can
30 be revoked at any time.