

# House File 2098 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2098  
BY BROWN-POWERS

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the health and human growth and development  
2 instruction provided by school districts and accredited  
3 nonpublic schools.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.11, subsections 2, 3, and 4, Code  
2 2022, are amended to read as follows:

3 2. The kindergarten program shall include experiences  
4 designed to develop healthy emotional and social habits and  
5 growth in the language arts and communication skills, as well  
6 as a capacity for the completion of individual tasks, and  
7 protect and increase physical well-being with attention given  
8 to experiences relating to the development of life skills and  
9 human growth and development. A kindergarten teacher shall be  
10 licensed to teach in kindergarten. An accredited nonpublic  
11 school must meet the requirements of this subsection only  
12 if the nonpublic school offers a kindergarten program. The  
13 experiences relating to human growth and development shall  
14 include instruction in identifying parts of the body as well as  
15 age-appropriate and research-based information regarding the  
16 importance of empathy and how to establish and respect physical  
17 boundaries. For purposes of this subsection, "age-appropriate"  
18 and "research-based" mean the same as defined in section 279.50.

19 3. The following areas shall be taught in grades one through  
20 six: English-language arts, social studies, mathematics,  
21 science, health, age-appropriate and research-based human  
22 growth and development, physical education, traffic safety,  
23 music, and visual art. Computer science instruction  
24 incorporating the standards established under section 256.7,  
25 subsection 26, paragraph "a", subparagraph (4), shall be  
26 offered in at least one grade level commencing with the school  
27 year beginning July 1, 2023. The health curriculum shall  
28 include the characteristics of communicable diseases, including  
29 acquired immune deficiency syndrome, and shall also include  
30 instruction in identifying parts of the body. The human growth  
31 and development curriculum shall include age-appropriate  
32 and research-based information regarding the importance of  
33 empathy and how to establish and respect physical boundaries.  
34 The state board as part of accreditation standards shall  
35 adopt curriculum definitions for implementing the elementary

1 program. For purposes of this subsection, “age-appropriate” and  
 2 “research-based” mean the same as defined in section 279.50.

3 4. The following shall be taught in grades seven and  
 4 eight: English-language arts; social studies; mathematics;  
 5 science; health; age-appropriate and research-based human  
 6 growth and development; career exploration and development;  
 7 physical education; music; and visual art. Computer science  
 8 instruction incorporating the standards established under  
 9 section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph “a”, subparagraph (4),  
 10 shall be offered in at least one grade level commencing with  
 11 the school year beginning July 1, 2023. Career exploration  
 12 and development shall be designed so that students are  
 13 appropriately prepared to create an individual career  
 14 and academic plan pursuant to [section 279.61](#), incorporate  
 15 foundational career and technical education concepts aligned  
 16 with the six career and technical education service areas  
 17 as defined in [subsection 5](#), paragraph “h”, and incorporate  
 18 relevant twenty-first century skills. The health curriculum  
 19 shall include age-appropriate and research-based information  
 20 regarding the characteristics of sexually transmitted diseases,  
 21 including HPV and the availability of a vaccine to prevent HPV,  
 22 and acquired immune deficiency syndrome. The human growth  
 23 and development curriculum shall include age-appropriate  
 24 and research-based information regarding how to give proper  
 25 sexual and nonsexual consent, how to recognize proper sexual  
 26 and nonsexual consent, how to identify sexually predatory  
 27 behavior, the characteristics of healthy and unhealthy  
 28 sexual and nonsexual relationships, and how to prevent  
 29 sexual and nonsexual assault. The state board as part of  
 30 accreditation standards shall adopt curriculum definitions for  
 31 implementing the program in grades seven and eight. However,  
 32 this subsection shall not apply to the teaching of career  
 33 exploration and development in nonpublic schools. For purposes  
 34 of [this section subsection](#), “age-appropriate”, “HPV”, and  
 35 “research-based” mean the same as defined in [section 279.50](#).

1      Sec. 2. Section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph j,  
2 subparagraph (1), Code 2022, is amended to read as follows:

(1) One unit of health education which shall include personal health; food and nutrition; environmental health; safety and survival skills; consumer health; family life; age-appropriate and research-based human growth and development; substance abuse and nonuse; emotional and social health; health resources; and prevention and control of disease, including age-appropriate and research-based information regarding sexually transmitted diseases, including HPV and the availability of a vaccine to prevent HPV, and acquired immune deficiency syndrome. The one unit of health education shall also include age-appropriate and research-based information regarding how to give proper sexual and nonsexual consent, how to recognize proper sexual and nonsexual consent, how to identify sexually predatory behavior, the characteristics of healthy and unhealthy sexual and nonsexual relationships, and how to prevent sexual and nonsexual assault. For purposes of this subparagraph, "*age-appropriate*" and "*research-based*" mean the same as defined in section 279.50.

### EXPLANATION

22 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
23 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

24 This bill relates to the health and human growth and  
25 development instruction provided by school districts and  
26 accredited nonpublic schools.

27 The bill requires that the curriculum taught in kindergarten  
28 and grades one through six in school districts and accredited  
29 nonpublic schools include instruction in identifying parts of  
30 the body. The bill also requires that the curriculum taught  
31 in kindergarten and grades one through six in school districts  
32 and accredited nonpublic schools include age-appropriate and  
33 research-based information regarding the importance of empathy  
34 and how to establish and respect physical boundaries.

35 The bill requires that the human growth and development

1 curriculum taught in grades 7 and 8 and the health curriculum  
2 taught in grades 9 through 12 in school districts and  
3 accredited nonpublic schools include age-appropriate and  
4 research-based information regarding how to give proper  
5 sexual and nonsexual consent, how to recognize proper sexual  
6 and nonsexual consent, how to identify sexually predatory  
7 behavior, the characteristics of healthy and unhealthy sexual  
8 and nonsexual relationships, and how to prevent sexual and  
9 nonsexual assault.  
10 The bill defines "age-appropriate" and "research-based".