

As Introduced

133rd General Assembly

Regular Session

2019-2020

S. B. No. 121

Senators Sykes, Kunze

Cosponsors: Senators Antonio, Thomas, Williams, Craig, Fedor, Lehner

A BILL

To amend sections 3301.0718 and 3313.6011 and to 1
enact section 3301.0727 of the Revised Code to 2
require the State Board of Education to adopt 3
health education standards and to require that 4
only statewide venereal disease education 5
standards and curriculum be approved by the 6
General Assembly. 7

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 3301.0718 and 3313.6011 be 8
amended and section 3301.0727 of the Revised Code be enacted to 9
read as follows: 10

Sec. 3301.0718. (A) The state board of education shall not 11
adopt or revise any standards or curriculum in the area of 12
~~health-venereal disease education~~ unless, by concurrent 13
resolution, the standards, curriculum, or revisions are approved 14
by both houses of the general assembly. Before the house of 15
representatives or senate votes on a concurrent resolution 16
approving ~~health-venereal disease education~~ standards, 17
curriculum, or revisions, its standing committee having 18

jurisdiction over education legislation shall conduct at least 19
one public hearing on the standards, curriculum, or revisions. 20

(B) Each district and school shall be free to develop its 21
own standards and curriculum for instruction in venereal disease 22
education that emphasizes abstinence, in accordance with section 23
3313.6011 of the Revised Code. 24

Sec. 3301.0727. (A) Not later than July 1, 2020, the state 25
board of education shall develop and adopt health education 26
standards for the purpose of health education in grades 27
kindergarten through twelve. The methodology used by the state 28
board to develop the standards shall be based on the methodology 29
used by the state board to develop standards in other academic 30
content areas. 31

(B) The department of education shall provide the adopted 32
standards, and any revisions to the standards, to all school 33
districts, community schools established under Chapter 3314., 34
STEM schools established under Chapter 3326., and college- 35
preparatory boarding schools established under Chapter 3328. of 36
the Revised Code. Any school or district may utilize the 37
standards. 38

Sec. 3313.6011. (A) As used in this section, "sexual 39
activity" has the same meaning as in section 2907.01 of the 40
Revised Code. 41

(B) Instruction in venereal disease education pursuant to 42
division (A) (5) (c) of section 3313.60 of the Revised Code shall 43
emphasize that abstinence from sexual activity is the only 44
protection that is one hundred per cent effective against 45
unwanted pregnancy, sexually transmitted disease, and the sexual 46
transmission of a virus that causes acquired immunodeficiency 47

syndrome.	48
(C) In adopting minimum standards under section 3301.07 of	49
the Revised Code, the state board of education shall require	50
course material and instruction in venereal disease education	51
courses taught pursuant to division (A)(5)(c) of section 3313.60	52
of the Revised Code to do all of the following:	53
(1) Stress that students should abstain from sexual	54
activity until after marriage;	55
(2) Teach the potential physical, psychological,	56
emotional, and social side effects of participating in sexual	57
activity outside of marriage;	58
(3) Teach that conceiving children out of wedlock is	59
likely to have harmful consequences for the child, the child's	60
parents, and society;	61
(4) Stress that sexually transmitted diseases are serious	62
possible hazards of sexual activity;	63
(5) Advise students of the laws pertaining to financial	64
responsibility of parents to children born in and out of	65
wedlock;	66
(6) Advise students of the circumstances under which it is	67
criminal to have sexual contact with a person under the age of	68
sixteen pursuant to section 2907.04 of the Revised Code;	69
(7) Emphasize adoption as an option for unintended	70
pregnancies.	71
(D) Any model education program for health-venereal	72
<u>disease</u> education the state board of education adopts shall	73
conform to the requirements of this section.	74

(E) On and after March 18, 1999, and notwithstanding 75
section 3302.07 of the Revised Code, the superintendent of 76
public instruction shall not approve, pursuant to section 77
3302.07 of the Revised Code, any waiver of any requirement of 78
this section or of any rule adopted by the state board of 79
education pursuant to this section. 80

Section 2. That existing sections 3301.0718 and 3313.6011 81
of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 82