

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 352

2021 Regular Session

Hodges

CURRICULA: Provides relative to required instruction in American history and civics in public schools

DIGEST

Proposed law requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to consider incorporating standards related to the following topics into the state content standards for social studies:

- (1) The Creator-endowed unalienable rights of the people.
- (2) Structure of government and separation of powers with checks and balances.
- (3) Frequent and free elections in a representative government.
- (4) Rule of law.
- (5) Equal justice under the law.
- (6) Private property rights.
- (7) Federalism.
- (8) Due process.
- (9) Individual rights as set forth in the Bill of Rights.
- (10) Individual responsibility.
- (11) National sovereignty.
- (12) The ideas and form of government that make the American experiment unique.

Proposed law requires BESE to publish a notice of any hearing held regarding the development of social studies standards pursuant to proposed law in the official journal of each parish in the state.

(Adds R.S. 17:24.4(M))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Regarding lists of founding principles to be taught, remove certain proposed additions and limit the ones required in K-8 instruction.
2. Require instructional materials to include certain primary historical documents.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the reengrossed bill

1. Delete provisions amending present law relative to required instruction of specified information regarding the founding principles of the U.S. in certain high school American history and civics courses.
2. Delete requirement that instruction in civics, including the founding principles of the U.S., be provided to students in grades K-8.
3. Delete requirement that specified documents be used in instruction.
4. Delete legislative findings.
5. Require BESE to consider incorporating standards related to the founding principles of the U.S. into the content standards for social studies.
6. Require BESE to publish notice of hearings held regarding the development of social studies standards on the specified topics in the official journal of every parish.