
DIGEST

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HB 402 Engrossed

2016 Regular Session

Smith

Abstract: Authorizes the state Dept. of Education and the Dept. of Health and Hospitals to survey high school students anonymously about risk behavior associated with chronic health conditions.

Present law authorizes public schools to offer instruction in "sex education" if such instruction is integrated into an existing course of study such as biology, science, physical hygiene, or physical education. Prohibits testing, quizzing, or surveying students about their personal beliefs or practices in sex, morality, or religion. Proposed law adds an exception to present law by authorizing the state Dept. of Education and the Dept. of Health and Hospitals to survey high school students anonymously about their risk behavior associated with chronic health conditions, including those related to sexual health. Provides that prior to survey administration, a student's parent or legal guardian shall be provided the opportunity to request that he be excused from completing the survey and that upon such request, the student shall neither be given nor be required to complete the survey. Otherwise retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 17:281(A)(2))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Limit students who may be surveyed to those in high school and require that survey be anonymous.
2. Add requirement that parents be given the opportunity to "opt out" prior to survey administration.