

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 723

Sponsor: SENATOR EICHELBERGER

Printer's No. 857

1 Amend Bill, page 1, lines 5 and 6, by striking out "providing
2 for civics test graduation requirement" and inserting
3 further providing for courses of study

4 Amend Bill, page 1, lines 9 through 18; page 2, lines 1
5 through 30; page 3, lines 1 through 20; by striking out all of
6 said lines on said pages and inserting

7 Section 1. Section 1605 of the act of March 10, 1949
8 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is
9 amended by adding a subsection to read:

10 Section 1605. Courses of Study.--* * *

11 (d) Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, the curriculum
12 for social studies under subsection (a) and courses enumerated
13 in that subsection shall contain a unit of study that includes
14 civics-related subject matter of which naturalized citizens are
15 required to demonstrate a knowledge. The following shall apply:

16 (1) As a means to inform civics-related curricula and
17 instruction, under any of the enumerated courses of study under
18 subsection (b), a test shall be administered which is identical
19 to the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the
20 United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to survey a
21 student's knowledge of the fundamentals of the history,
22 principles and form of the Government of the United States.

23 (2) The Department of Education shall promulgate rules and
24 regulations to implement the provisions of this subsection,
25 which shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

26 (i) requiring that the aggregated results of the test for a
27 public, private or parochial school be reported to the
28 Department of Education on an annual basis to help inform the
29 overall State approach to the social studies curriculum;

30 (ii) providing a written report to the Education Committee
31 of the Senate and the Education Committee of the House of
32 Representatives within five years after the implementation of
33 this subsection to measure the impact of the test on the social
34 studies curriculum; and

35 (iii) developing a certificate of recognition for those

1 students scoring one hundred percent (100%) on the test.