

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 723

Sponsor: SENATOR RAFFERTY

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1 Amend Bill, page 3, lines 24 through 30; page 4, lines 1
2 through 21; by striking out all of said lines on said pages and
3 inserting

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

5 (d) (1) Beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, each school
6 entity shall:

7 (i) Provide instruction to students relating to the content
8 of the one hundred (100) question civics test used by the United
9 States Citizenship and Immigration Services at least once during
10 grades seven through twelve. The instruction may be provided as
11 a separate course or as an instructional unit within a course
12 which provides instruction in social studies under subsection
13 (a).

14 (ii) Administer a test to students that is identical to the
15 one hundred (100) question civics test used by the United States
16 Citizenship and Immigration Services at the conclusion of the
17 course or instructional unit provided for under subparagraph
18 (i). Each school entity shall determine the manner in which the
19 test shall be administered.

20 (2) The department shall:

21 (i) No later than the 2019-2020 school year, post on its
22 publicly accessible Internet website links to the one hundred
23 (100) question civics test used by the United States Citizenship
24 and Immigration Services and any related resources offered by
25 the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. The
26 department shall post any additional materials and resources
27 that the department deems useful to a school entity in complying
28 with the requirements of this subsection.

29 (ii) Conduct an electronic survey of each school entity at
30 the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year and at the
31 conclusion of every other school year thereafter requesting
32 information regarding the civics test required under paragraph
33 (1)(i). Each school entity shall respond to the survey no later
34 than November 30 following the school year for which the survey
35 is conducted. The survey shall only request the following
36 information regarding the immediately preceding school year:

37 (A) The total number of students who took the civics test.

1 (B) The total number of students who attained a passing
2 grade on the civics test by answering at least sixty percent
3 (60%) of the test questions correctly.

4 (C) The grade level or levels in which the civics test was
5 administered.

6 (D) The course or courses in which the civics test was
7 administered.

8 (iii) Make the data collected from the surveys conducted
9 under subparagraph (ii) available on its publicly accessible
10 Internet website.

11 (iv) Develop a certificate of recognition for students who
12 passed the civics test by answering one hundred percent (100%)
13 of the test questions correctly and make the certificate
14 available on its publicly accessible Internet website for use by
15 school entities.

16 (3) A student with an individualized education program shall
17 not be required to take the civics test required under paragraph
18 (1)(ii) if the provisions of the student's individualized
19 education program indicate otherwise.

20 (4) As used in this subsection, the following words and
21 phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this paragraph,
22 unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

23 "Department" shall mean the Department of Education of the
24 Commonwealth.

25 "Individualized education program" shall mean an
26 individualized education program under 22 Pa. Code Ch. 14
27 (relating to special education services and programs).

28 "School entity" shall mean a school district, area
29 vocational-technical school, intermediate unit, charter school,
30 cyber charter school, regional charter school or nonpublic
31 school.

32 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.