

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 347

2 INTRODUCED BY A. HALE

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING A K-12 PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION IN CIVIC
5 EDUCATION; REQUIRING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO DEVELOP, ADMINISTER,
6 AND SUPERVISE THE PROGRAM AND RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION BASIC
7 COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROGRAM; AND AMENDING SECTION 20-2-121, MCA."

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9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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11 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Civic education -- definition.** As used in [sections 1 and 2], "civic
12 education" means age-appropriate units of study in each grade throughout public elementary and secondary
13 school on the founding principles and documents of the United States of America, the accurate historical
14 experience of Americans under free government, and the rights, responsibilities, and dignity of American
15 citizenship.

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17 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Duties of superintendent of public instruction.** The superintendent of
18 public instruction shall:

- 19 (1) develop, administer, and supervise a K-12 program of instruction in civic education; and
20 (2) recommend to the board of public education basic course requirements for a K-12 program of
21 instruction in civic education.

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23 **Section 3.** Section 20-2-121, MCA, is amended to read:

24 **"20-2-121. Board of public education -- powers and duties.** The board of public education shall:

- 25 (1) effect an orderly and uniform system for teacher certification and specialist certification and for the
26 issuance of an emergency authorization of employment by adopting the policies prescribed by 20-4-102 and
27 20-4-111;
28 (2) consider the suspension or revocation of teacher or specialist certificates and appeals from the denial
29 of teacher or specialist certification in accordance with the provisions of 20-4-110;
30 (3) administer and order the distribution of BASE aid in accordance with the provisions of 20-9-344;

1 (4) adopt and enforce policies to provide uniform standards and regulations for the design, construction,
2 and operation of school buses in accordance with the provisions of 20-10-111;

3 (5) adopt policies prescribing the conditions when school may be conducted on Saturday and the types
4 of pupil-instruction-related days and approval procedure for those days in accordance with the provisions of
5 20-1-303 and 20-1-304;

6 (6) adopt standards of accreditation and establish the accreditation status of every school in accordance
7 with the provisions of 20-7-101 and 20-7-102;

8 (7) approve or disapprove educational media selected by the superintendent of public instruction for the
9 educational media library in accordance with the provisions of 20-7-201;

10 (8) adopt policies for the conduct of special education in accordance with the provisions of 20-7-402;

11 (9) adopt rules for issuance of documents certifying equivalency of completion of secondary education
12 in accordance with 20-7-131;

13 (10) adopt policies for the conduct of programs for gifted and talented children in accordance with the
14 provisions of 20-7-903 and 20-7-904;

15 (11) adopt rules for student assessment in the public schools; ~~and~~

16 (12) adopt policies for the conduct of a K-12 program of instruction in civic education as defined in
17 [section 1]; and

18 ~~(12)~~(13) perform any other duty prescribed from time to time by this title or any other act of the
19 legislature."
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21 NEW SECTION. Section 4. Codification instruction. [Sections 1 and 2] are intended to be codified
22 as an integral part of Title 20, chapter 7, and the provisions of Title 20, chapter 7, apply to [sections 1 and 2].

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