

HOUSE BILL NO. 520

INTRODUCED BY D. LAMM

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ENSURING CONSISTENT, HIGH STANDARDS FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION; REQUIRING THAT THE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS OF MONTANA'S BASIC SYSTEM OF FREE QUALITY SCHOOLS INCLUDE PASSING A TEST ESTABLISHING CIVIC COMPETENCE; AND AMENDING SECTION 20-2-121, MCA."

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

Section 1. Section 20-2-121, MCA, is amended to read:

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

(1) effect an orderly and uniform system for teacher certification and specialist certification and for the issuance of an emergency authorization of employment by adopting the policies prescribed by 20-4-102 and 20-4-111;

(2) consider the suspension or revocation of teacher or specialist certificates and appeals from the denial of teacher or specialist certification in accordance with the provisions of 20-4-110;

(3) administer and order the distribution of BASE aid in accordance with the provisions of 20-9-344;

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

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

(6) in accordance with the provisions of 20-7-101, adopt standards of accreditation as defined in 20-1-101, including academic requirements for high school graduation that must include a pupil correctly answering at least 60 of the 100 questions listed on a test that is identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States citizenship and immigration services and establish the accreditation status of every school in accordance with the provisions of 20-7-101 and 20-7-102;

(7) establish the accreditation status of every school in accordance with the provisions of 20-7-102;

~~(7)(8)~~ approve or disapprove educational media selected by the superintendent of public instruction for



1 the educational media library in accordance with the provisions of 20-7-201;
2 ~~(8)~~(9) adopt policies for the conduct of special education in accordance with the provisions of 20-7-402;
3 ~~(9)~~(10) adopt rules for issuance of documents certifying equivalency of completion of secondary
4 education in accordance with 20-7-131;
5 ~~(10)~~(11) adopt policies for the conduct of programs for gifted and talented children in accordance with
6 the provisions of 20-7-903 and 20-7-904;
7 ~~(11)~~(12) adopt rules for student assessment in the public schools; and
8 ~~(12)~~(13) perform any other duty prescribed from time to time by this title or any other act of the
9 legislature."
10 - END -