

HOUSE BILL NO. 239

INTRODUCED BY C. SMITH

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO OBTAIN WRITTEN CONSENT FROM A PARENT OR GUARDIAN BEFORE INSTRUCTING STUDENTS IN HUMAN SEXUALITY EDUCATION; REQUIRING A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO INFORM A PARENT OR GUARDIAN WHEN EVENTS OR COURSES ON HUMAN SEXUALITY WILL BE HELD OR TAUGHT; PROHIBITING A SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM ALLOWING ANY ABORTION SERVICES PROVIDER TO OFFER MATERIALS OR INSTRUCTION AT A SCHOOL; AMENDING SECTION 20-5-103, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

Section 1. Section 20-5-103, MCA, is amended to read:

"20-5-103. Compulsory attendance and excuses. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), any parent, guardian, or other person who is responsible for the care of any child who is 7 years of age or older prior to the first day of school in any school fiscal year shall cause the child to attend the school in which the child is enrolled for the school term and each school day in the term prescribed by the trustees of the district until the later of the following dates:

- (a) the child's 16th birthday; or
 - (b) the date of completion of the work of the 8th grade.
- (2) The provisions of subsection (1) do not apply in the following cases:
- (a) The child has been excused under one of the conditions specified in 20-5-102.
 - (b) The child is absent because of illness, bereavement, or other reason prescribed by the policies of the trustees.
 - (c) The child has been suspended or expelled under the provisions of 20-5-202.
 - (d) The child is excused pursuant to [section 2].

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Excused absences from curriculum requirements -- notice -- prohibited activities. (1) A school may not allow a child to attend a course of instruction, a class period, an assembly, an organized school function, or instruction of any type that involves human sexual education, human

1 sexuality issues, or information regarding sexual acts unless each child's parent or guardian agrees in writing to
2 allow the child to attend the instruction. Pursuant to 20-5-103, a child is excused from participating in the
3 instruction unless the child fails to attend after the parent or guardian has agreed in writing to allow the child's
4 attendance.

5 (2) Any school implementing or maintaining a curriculum, providing materials, or holding an event or
6 assembly that involves human sexual education, human sexuality issues, or information regarding sexual acts,
7 whether introduced by school educators, administrators, or officials or by guests invited at the request of the
8 school, shall adopt a policy ensuring parental or guardian notification no less than 48 hours prior to holding an
9 event or assembly or introducing materials for instructional use.

10 (3) A school district shall notify the parent or guardian of each student enrolled in the district or school
11 of:

12 (a) the basic content of the district's or school's human sexuality instruction intended to be taught to the
13 student; and

14 (b) the parent's or guardian's right to include the student in the district's or school's human sexuality
15 instruction.

16 (4) A school district shall make all curriculum materials used in the district's or school's human sexuality
17 instruction available for public inspection prior to the use of the materials in actual instruction.

18 (5) A school district or its personnel or agents may not permit a person, entity, or any affiliate or agent
19 of the person or entity to offer, sponsor, or furnish in any manner any course materials or instruction relating to
20 human sexuality or sexually transmitted diseases to its students or personnel if the person, entity, or affiliate or
21 agent of the person or entity is a provider of abortion services.

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23 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Codification instruction.** [Section 2] is intended to be codified as an
24 integral part of Title 20, chapter 7, and the provisions of Title 20, chapter 7, apply to [section 2].

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26 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Severability.** If a part of [this act] is invalid, all valid parts that are severable
27 from the invalid part remain in effect. If a part of [this act] is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part
28 remains in effect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid applications.

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30 **NEW SECTION. Section 5. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2013.

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