HB 665 2017

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to human trafficking education in schools; amending s. 1003.42, F.S.; revising the required health education in public schools to include information regarding the dangers and signs of human trafficking; authorizing a student to opt out of a specified portion of the health education under certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Paragraph (n) of subsection (2) of section 1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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1003.42 Required instruction.—

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(2) Members of the instructional staff of the public schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the highest standards for professionalism and historic accuracy, following the prescribed courses of study, and employing approved methods of instruction, the following:

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(n) Comprehensive health education that addresses concepts of community health; consumer health; environmental health; family life, including an awareness of the benefits of sexual abstinence as the expected standard and the consequences of

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teenage pregnancy; mental and emotional health; injury prevention and safety; Internet safety; the dangers and signs of human trafficking; nutrition; personal health; prevention and control of disease; and substance use and abuse. The health education curriculum for students in grades 7 through 12 shall include a teen dating violence and abuse component that includes, but is not limited to, the definition of dating violence and abuse, the warning signs of dating violence and abusive behavior, the characteristics of healthy relationships, measures to prevent and stop dating violence and abuse, and community resources available to victims of dating violence and abuse. The human trafficking education portion of the health curriculum shall include, but is not limited to, information on the warning signs of human trafficking, terms used by traffickers, red flags that would indicate a trafficker's malicious intent toward a student, websites that are popular with traffickers, and details on how a student may get help. A student may elect to opt out of the instruction of this portion of the health education by providing the school with a written note from his or her parent.

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The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

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