

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 81 w/CS Educational Instruction
SPONSOR(S): Henriquez
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 426

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) Education K-20	25 Y, 0 N w/CS	Aldis	Bohannon
2) Education Appropriations (Sub)			
3) Appropriations			
4)			
5)			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The bill requires the Department of Education to conduct a study of the following:

- Analysis of school district compliance with the social studies instruction requirements in s. 1003.42, F.S.
- Examination of the extent to which civics instruction is included in the general education requirements of community colleges and state universities.
- Information on social studies instruction standards adopted by the State Board of Education.

The study shall be submitted to the Legislature by January 15, 2005, and shall include any recommendations for policy changes based upon the study.

The bill does not appear to have a significant impact on state and local government expenditures.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2004.

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives.

STORAGE NAME: h0081b.edk.doc
DATE: April 20, 2004

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. DOES THE BILL:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Reduce government? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Lower taxes? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Expand individual freedom? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Increase personal responsibility? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Empower families? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a “no” above, please explain:

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The bill requires the Department of Education to study a number of issues related to social studies instruction.

The department must analyze and document each school district’s compliance with the social studies instruction requirements in s. 1003.42, F.S. Section 1003.42(1) requires each district school board to meet State Board of Education standards in a number of subject areas, including social studies.

In addition, the department must examine how much civics instruction is included in the social science component of the general education requirements of each community college and state university. Currently, there is no specific requirement in statutory law for civics instruction, but some colleges and universities do require courses that have a civics component such as American history or American government.

The department must also provide information on any standards adopted by the State Board of Education that relate to social studies instruction. This will include the Sunshine State Standards that provide expectations for student achievement and are therefore closely aligned to instruction requirements.¹

The findings of the study, along with any recommendations based upon the study, must be submitted to the Legislature by January 15, 2005.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Requires the Department of Education to conduct a study on social studies instruction in public schools and social science instruction in community colleges and state universities; requires the findings and recommendations of the study be submitted to the Legislature by January 15, 2005.

Section 2. Provides effective date.

¹ Sunshine State Standards in social studies have been adopted for grades PK-12. The standards and related information can be found at <http://www.firn.edu/doe/menu/sss.htm>.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state government revenues.

2. Expenditures:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state government expenditures.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local government revenues.

2. Expenditures:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local government expenditures.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

This bill does not appear to have a direct economic impact on the private sector.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

This bill does not require municipalities or counties to expend funds, does not reduce their authority to raise revenue, and does not reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

2. Other:

This bill does not appear to violate any constitutional provisions.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

This bill does not grant additional rulemaking authority.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

The sponsor has indicated that a strike-all amendment will be offered that will require the Department of Education to submit to the Legislature, by January 15, 2005, the results of a study that includes an analysis of each district's compliance with the social studies instruction requirements in s. 1003.42, the extent to which the social science component of the general education requirements of each community college and state university includes civics instruction, and information on standards adopted by the State Board of Education related to social studies instruction. The study will also include any recommended policy changes. If adopted, this strike-all amendment would not appear to have a significant impact on state or local government expenditures.

The Committee on Education K-20 adopted the strike-all amendment described above on April 14, 2004.