CS/HB 259, Engrossed 1

A DIII to be entitled
An act relating to comprehensive health in public
schools; amending s. 1003.42, F.S.; revising the
requirements for comprehensive health education in
public schools to include information regarding child
abuse and human trafficking; deleting a requirement
that such health education include specified
information relating to teen dating violence and abuse
and information relating to healthy relationships;
amending s. 1003.453, F.S.; requiring school districts
to develop cardiac emergency response plans and, under
certain circumstances, automated external
defibrillator maintenance plans; providing
requirements for such plans; amending s. 1002.20,
F.S.; providing an exemption from portions of the
comprehensive health education in public schools to
certain students; providing requirements for such
exemption; providing an effective date.
Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
Section 1. Paragraph (n) of subsection (2) of section
1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
1003.42 Required instruction
(2) Members of the instructional staff of the public

Page 1 of 4

CS/HB 259, Engrossed 1

2019

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 historical accuracy, following the prescribed courses of study, and employing approved methods of instruction, the following:

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 teenage pregnancy; mental and emotional health; injury prevention and safety; Internet safety; 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; techniques for students and teachers to recognize and respond to child abuse; and the dangers and warning signs of human trafficking, 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.

48 49

50

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards

Page 2 of 4

and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection. A character development program that incorporates the values of the recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness initiative meets the requirements of paragraphs (s) and (t).

Section 2. Subsection (4) is added to section 1003.453, Florida Statutes, to read:

1003.453 School wellness and physical education policies; nutrition guidelines.—

(4) Each school district shall develop a cardiac emergency response plan, in accordance with the standards established by the American Heart Association, for implementation at each public school operated by the district. The cardiac emergency response plan must include a school's response to sudden cardiac arrest experienced by a student or other individual on school grounds and an automated external defibrillator (AED) maintenance plan if a school has AED equipment. The AED maintenance plan must include a review of the status of AEDs in school facilities at least once every 3 years.

Section 3. Paragraph (n) is added to subsection (3) of section 1002.20, Florida Statutes, to read:

1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public school students must receive accurate and timely information regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed

Page 3 of 4

CS/HB 259, Engrossed 1

76

77

78

79

80

81

8283

84

2019

of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory rights including, but not limited to, the following:

- (3) HEALTH ISSUES.-
- (n) A public school student whose parent makes a written request to the school principal shall be exempted from portions of the comprehensive health education required under s.

 1003.42(2)(n) that the parent finds objectionable.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

Page 4 of 4