

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to civics education; amending s.
3 1003.4156, F.S.; requiring instructional materials for
4 a certain civics education course to be reviewed and
5 approved by specified entities; providing an effective
6 date.

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

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10 Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section
11 1003.4156, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

12 1003.4156 General requirements for middle grades
13 promotion.—

14 (1) In order for a student to be promoted to high school
15 from a school that includes middle grades 6, 7, and 8, the
16 student must successfully complete the following courses:

17 (c) Three middle grades or higher courses in social
18 studies. Beginning with students entering grade 6 in the 2012-
19 2013 school year, one of these courses must be at least a one-
20 semester civics education course that includes the roles and
21 responsibilities of federal, state, and local governments; the
22 structures and functions of the legislative, executive, and
23 judicial branches of government; and the meaning and
24 significance of historic documents, such as the Articles of
25 Confederation, the Declaration of Independence, and the

26 | Constitution of the United States. All instructional materials
27 | for the civics education course shall be reviewed by the Florida
28 | Joint Center for Citizenship and approved by the Commissioner of
29 | Education. Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, each
30 | student's performance on the statewide, standardized EOC
31 | assessment in civics education required under s. 1008.22
32 | constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade. A
33 | middle grades student who transfers into the state's public
34 | school system from out of country, out of state, a private
35 | school, or a home education program after the beginning of the
36 | second term of grade 8 is not required to meet the civics
37 | education requirement for promotion from the middle grades if
38 | the student's transcript documents passage of three courses in
39 | social studies or two year-long courses in social studies that
40 | include coverage of civics education.

41 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.