

1 AN ACT relating to civic education.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔ Section 1. KRS 158.141 is amended to read as follows:

- 4 (1) Beginning ***with the entering ninth grade class of the 2025-2026 school year and***
5 ***each year thereafter, completion of a one-half (1/2) credit course in civic literacy***
6 ***that includes instruction in the areas required in subsection (3) of this section***
7 ***shall be a graduation requirement for each student in every public high school in***
8 ***Kentucky***~~[on July 1, 2018, to graduate from a Kentucky public high school with a~~
9 ~~regular diploma, a student shall pass a civics test composed of one hundred (100)~~
10 ~~questions drawn from those that are set forth within the civics test administered by~~
11 ~~the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to persons seeking to~~
12 ~~become naturalized citizens].~~
- 13 (2) A ***student pursuing an early graduation program as established in KRS 158.142***
14 ***shall complete the required instruction prior to the student's graduation***~~[local~~
15 ~~board of education shall prepare or approve a test composed of the questions~~
16 ~~described in subsection (1) of this section and shall disseminate the test to all public~~
17 ~~high schools of the district. The test shall be administered by the public high~~
18 ~~schools in each district].~~
- 19 (3) A ***civic literacy course shall include but not be limited to instruction in the***
20 ***following areas:***
- 21 ***(a) An overview of America's founding history, including but not limited to key***
22 ***texts; the role and operations of local, state, and national governments; the***
23 ***rights and responsibilities of citizenship; federalism; civil liberties; and civil***
24 ***rights;***
- 25 ***(b) Principles of the United States government;***
- 26 ***(c) The Constitution of Kentucky and the Constitution of the United States;***
- 27 ***(d) Institutions of the United States government and the responsibilities of the***

1 executive branch, legislative branch, and judicial branch;

2 (e) State government and local governments and the role of each;

3 (f) Political parties and interest groups;

4 (g) Campaigns and elections;

5 (h) United States Congress;

6 (i) Domestic policy;

7 (j) Foreign policy;

8 (k) Comparative systems;

9 (l) International relations; and

10 (m) Major issues facing government~~[public high school shall provide each~~
11 ~~student with the opportunity to take the test as many times as necessary for the~~
12 ~~student to pass the test. A student shall not receive a regular high school~~
13 ~~diploma until the student passes the test].~~

14 (4) The Kentucky Board of Education shall promulgate administrative regulations in
15 accordance with KRS 156.160 to establish academic standards for civic literacy~~[A~~
16 ~~student passes the test if at least sixty percent (60%) of the questions are answered~~
17 ~~correctly.~~

18 ~~(5) A student who has passed a similar test within the previous five (5) years shall not~~
19 ~~be required to take the test under this section.~~

20 ~~(6) Provisions of this section shall be subject to the requirements and accommodations~~
21 ~~of a student's individualized education program as defined in KRS 158.281 or a~~
22 ~~Section 504 Plan as defined in KRS 156.027].~~