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CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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Floor: WD/2R
4/17/2008 11:47 AM

1 Senators Deutch and Rich moved the following **amendment:**

2
3 **Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

4 Delete lines 17 through 44

5 and insert:

6 Section 1. (1) This section may be cited as the "Evolution
7 and Healthy Teens Academic Freedom Act."

8 (2) As used in this section, the term:

9 (a) "Comprehensive sexual education" means information
10 that:

11 1. Helps young people gain knowledge about the physical,
12 biological, and hormonal changes of adolescence and subsequent
13 stages of human maturation;

14 2. Develops healthy attitudes and values concerning growth,
15 development, and body image;

16 3. Teaches that abstinence is the only certain way to avoid
17 pregnancy or sexually transmitted diseases; and



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18 4. Commencing in the 6th grade:

19 a. Emphasizes the value of abstinence while not ignoring
20 those adolescents who may or may not be sexually active;

21 b. Provides information about the health benefits and side
22 effects of all contraceptives and as a means of preventing
23 pregnancy and reducing the risk of contracting sexually
24 transmitted infections, including HIV and AIDS; and

25 c. Encourages family communication about sexuality among
26 parents, their children, and other adult household members.

27 (b) "Factual information" includes, but is not limited to,
28 medical, psychiatric, psychological, empirical, and statistical
29 statements.

30 (c) "Medically accurate information" means information
31 supported by the weight of research conducted in compliance with
32 generally accepted scientific methods and recognized as accurate
33 and objective by leading professional organizations and agencies
34 having relevant expertise in the field.

35 (d) "Scientific information" means germane current facts,
36 data, and peer-reviewed research specific to the topic of
37 chemical and biological evolution as prescribed in Florida's
38 Science Standards.

39 (3) The Legislature finds that current law does not
40 expressly protect the right of teachers to objectively present
41 scientific information relevant to the full range of scientific
42 views regarding chemical and biological evolution and medically
43 accurate information regarding family planning, pregnancy or
44 sexually transmitted infections, including HIV and AIDS. The
45 Legislature finds that in many instances educators have
46 experienced or feared discipline, discrimination, or other
47 adverse consequences as a result of presenting the full range of



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48 scientific views regarding chemical and biological evolution and
49 medically accurate information regarding family planning,
50 pregnancy or sexually transmitted infections, including HIV and
51 AIDS. The Legislature further finds that existing law does not
52 expressly protect students from discrimination due to their
53 positions or views regarding biological or chemical evolution and
54 their questioning regarding medically accurate information
55 regarding family planning, pregnancy or sexually transmitted
56 infections, including HIV and AIDS. The Legislature finds that
57 the topic of biological and chemical evolution and comprehensive
58 sexual education have generated intense controversy about the
59 rights of teachers and students to hold differing views on those
60 subjects. It is therefore the intent of the Legislature that this
61 section expressly protect those rights.

62 (4) Every public school teacher in the state's K-12 school
63 system shall have the affirmative right and freedom to
64 objectively present:

65 (a) Scientific information relevant to the full range of
66 scientific views regarding biological and chemical evolution in
67 connection with teaching any prescribed curriculum regarding
68 chemical or biological evolution; and

69 (b) Comprehensive sexual education that is medically
70 accurate, factual, and age appropriate in connection with
71 teaching any prescribed abstinence-only curriculum regarding
72 human sexuality.

73 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2008.

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75 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

76 And the title is amended as follows:

77 Delete lines 2 through 7



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78 | and insert:

79 | An act relating to the teaching of chemical and biological
80 | evolution and human sexuality; providing a short title;
81 | providing legislative intent; defining the terms
82 | "scientific information", "medically accurate
83 | information", "comprehensive sexual education", and
84 | "factual information"; providing public school teachers
85 | with a right to present scientific information relevant to
86 | the full range of views on biological and chemical
87 | evolution and to provide certain information to students
88 | concerning human sexuality to provide information that
89 | meets specific criteria; providing an effective date.