

By Senator Abruzzo

25-01602-16

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to public school instruction;  
3           providing a short title; amending s. 1003.42, F.S.;  
4           requiring the instructional staff of public schools to  
5           provide instruction to certain students about the  
6           responsible use of social media by a specified school  
7           year; requiring the Commissioner of Education to  
8           provide school districts with certain information;  
9           providing an effective date.

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

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13           Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Social Media  
14 Awareness and Responsibility Teaching (SMART) Education Act."

15           Section 2. Paragraph (u) is added to subsection (2) of  
16 section 1003.42, Florida Statutes, to read:

17           1003.42 Required instruction.—

18           (2) Members of the instructional staff of the public  
19 schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education  
20 and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and  
21 faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the  
22 highest standards for professionalism and historic accuracy,  
23 following the prescribed courses of study, and employing  
24 approved methods of instruction, the following:

25           (u) Responsible use of social media. Beginning in the 2016-  
26 2017 school year, such instruction is required for students in  
27 grades 5 and 6. Each school district shall incorporate  
28 instruction on the responsible use of social media into the  
29 curriculum for students in grade 5 and shall incorporate a  
30 review of that material into the social studies curriculum for  
31 students in grade 6. The instruction must provide students with  
32 information on the purpose and acceptable use of various social

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33 media platforms; social media behavior that ensures cybersafety,  
34 cybersecurity, and cyberethics; and the potential negative  
35 consequences, including cyberbullying, of failing to use various  
36 social media platforms responsibly. The Commissioner of  
37 Education shall provide school districts with sample learning  
38 activities and resources designed to promote the responsible use  
39 of social media.

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41 The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards  
42 and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection.

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Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.