

By Senator Pizzo

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to health education; amending s.
3 1003.42, F.S.; requiring health education instruction
4 for certain students to include age-appropriate water
5 safety instruction; providing requirements for such
6 instruction; providing an effective 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 (n) of subsection (2) of section
11 1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

12 1003.42 Required instruction.—

13 (2) Members of the instructional staff of the public
14 schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education
15 and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and
16 faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the
17 highest standards for professionalism and historical accuracy,
18 following the prescribed courses of study, and employing
19 approved methods of instruction, the following:

20 (n) Comprehensive health education that addresses concepts
21 of community health; consumer health; environmental health;
22 family life, including an awareness of the benefits of sexual
23 abstinence as the expected standard and the consequences of
24 teenage pregnancy; mental and emotional health; injury
25 prevention and safety; water safety; Internet safety; nutrition;
26 personal health; prevention and control of disease; and
27 substance use and abuse. The health education curriculum for
28 students in grades 7 through 12 shall include a teen dating
29 violence and abuse component that includes, but is not limited

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30 to, the definition of dating violence and abuse, the warning
31 signs of dating violence and abusive behavior, the
32 characteristics of healthy relationships, measures to prevent
33 and stop dating violence and abuse, and community resources
34 available to victims of dating violence and abuse. Each school
35 district shall incorporate age-appropriate water safety
36 instruction into the health education curriculum for students in
37 kindergarten through grade 12, including, but not limited to,
38 the proper use of flotation devices, awareness of water
39 conditions, how to respond if caught in a rip current, the
40 proper supervision of swim areas, safe behaviors in and around
41 the water, the importance of pool barriers and fencing, the
42 importance of formal swim lessons, the importance of avoiding
43 alcohol and substance use while engaged in water recreation, and
44 the importance of the administration of cardiopulmonary
45 resuscitation to drowning victims, including the importance of
46 the sequence in which to administer such aid.

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48 The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards
49 and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection. A
50 character development program that incorporates the values of
51 the recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is
52 offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or
53 other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness
54 initiative meets the requirements of paragraphs (s) and (t).

55 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.