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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that requiring all high  
2 school graduates to have a basic understanding of United States  
3 civics and history will promote and encourage active and engaged  
4 citizenship.

5           The purpose of this Act is to require that all high school  
6 students pass the basic civics test produced by the United  
7 States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

8           SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended by adding two new sections to be appropriately  
10 designated and to read as follows:

11           "§302A-    Civics education. (a) The department shall  
12 establish and maintain a civics education course to be taught at  
13 each public high school in the State. The course content shall  
14 prepare students to take, and pass, the United States  
15 citizenship civics test, produced by the United States  
16 Citizenship and Immigration Services.



1        (b) As a part of the requirements necessary for a student  
2 to complete to qualify for graduation, every student, beginning  
3 with students entering the ninth grade in the 2017-2018 school  
4 year, shall be required to pass a test substantially equivalent  
5 to the United States citizenship civics test, produced by the  
6 United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, prior to the  
7 student's graduation from high school. No entity shall place a  
8 limit on the number of times a student may take the test.

9        As used in this section:

10        "Pass" means achieve a score of not less than sixty per  
11 cent of the maximum score.

12        "United States citizenship civics test, produced by the  
13 United States Citizenship and Immigration Services" means the  
14 one hundred question test used by the United States Citizenship  
15 and Immigration Services and administered to all applicants for  
16 United States citizenship.

17        §302A- General educational development; civics knowledge  
18 required. Starting January 1, 2018, no person shall be allowed  
19 to take the general educational development test without first  
20 achieving at least sixty per cent of the maximum score of the  
21 one hundred question test used by the United States Citizenship



# H.B. NO. 393

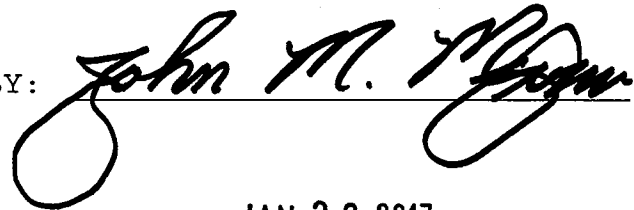
1 and Immigration Services and administered to all applicants for  
2 United States citizenship, or a substantially equivalent test."

3 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

5

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 20 2017



# H.B. NO. 793

**Report Title:**

Civics Test; Department of Education

**Description:**

Requires high school students and general educational development candidates to pass a test substantially equivalent to the United States citizenship civics test.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

