
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 the modern digital
2 world influences media content of news on current events,
3 thereby shaping the public's perception of reality. Media
4 literacy is a necessary skill that allows all citizens to
5 access, analyze, and evaluate information using a variety of
6 forms of communication. At the same time, "digital citizens"
7 must have the ability to recognize and value the rights,
8 responsibilities, and opportunities of living, learning, and
9 working in an interconnected digital world in order to engage in
10 safe, legal, and ethical behaviors.

11 The legislature further finds that students from
12 kindergarten through grade twelve should be educated in media
13 literacy to obtain the skills and experiences needed to become
14 full participants in the digital world, including instruction in
15 understanding how media shapes perceptions.

16 The legislature also finds that students use technology to
17 play, learn, and communicate at school and home and need to



1 learn how to use technology responsibly. Students must
2 understand how to use personal technology in ways that augment
3 their learning experience, which is necessary to analyze and
4 evaluate information transmitted by media.

5 The legislature further finds that instruction in media
6 literacy should be incorporated into every classroom and every
7 curriculum content area to prepare students to live and work in
8 a digital world. Teachers have an obligation to guide students'
9 exploration of the digital landscape and encourage them to be
10 critical and creative thinkers.

11 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
12 education to develop a plan to implement instruction on digital
13 citizenship and media literacy based on recommendations and
14 strategies provided by an advisory committee.

15 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended by adding a new section to part II, subpart B, to be
17 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

18 "§302A- Media literacy instruction; plan; advisory
19 committee; reporting. (a) The department shall develop a plan
20 to implement instruction in digital citizenship and media
21 literacy in grades kindergarten to twelve in public schools,



1 including charter schools and Hawaiian language immersion
2 schools, based upon the recommendations provided by the advisory
3 committee pursuant to subsection (c).

4 (b) The department shall convene an advisory committee to
5 make recommendations for purposes of developing the plan under
6 subsection (a). The advisory committee shall include:

7 (1) Experts in media literacy, digital citizenship, and
8 internet safety, including but not limited to academic
9 experts and non-profit organizations; and

10 (2) Other stakeholders, such as teachers, librarians,
11 parent organizations, students, educators, and
12 administrators.

13 (c) No later than _____, 2019, the advisory committee
14 shall make recommendations to the department on the following:

15 (1) Best practices, resources, and models for grade-
16 appropriate instruction in media literacy, digital
17 citizenship, and internet safety; provided that the
18 recommendations shall comply with federal E-rate
19 programs and the federal Children's Internet
20 Protection Act;



1 thoughtful, safe, and strategic uses of online and other media
2 resources."

3 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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

5



Report Title:

Education; Digital Citizenship; Media Literacy

Description:

Requires the department of education to develop a plan to teach digital citizenship and media literacy in grades kindergarten through twelve in public schools, including charter schools and Hawaiian language immersion schools. Requires the department of education to convene an advisory committee to make recommendations on best practices for purposes of developing and implementing the plan. Requires an annual report to legislature. (SD1)

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