



ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-fifth Legislature
Second Regular Session

House: ED DPA 6-4-0-0

HB 2008: schools; academic standards; civics instruction.

Sponsor: Representative Nguyen, LD 1

House Engrossed

Overview

Requires the high school social studies academic standards to include a comparative discussion of political ideologies that conflict with the principles of freedom and democracy that are essential to the United States' founding principles.

History

The State Board of Education (SBE) is required to prescribe minimum course of study and competency requirements that incorporate the academic standards for the high school graduation of students ([A.R.S. § 15-203](#)). Currently, statute directs SBE to include personal finance and American civics education in the high school social studies academic standards. Statute also requires high school students to correctly answer at least 60 questions on the required civics test to graduate ([A.R.S. § 15-701.01](#)). The current History and Social Science Standards for high school are organized under four core disciplines in social studies: civics, economics, geography and history ([Standards](#)).

To graduate, students must have three credits in social studies that, at a minimum, include one credit of American/Arizona history, one credit of world history/geography, one-half credit of American/Arizona government and civics and one-half credit in economics ([A.A.C. R7-2-302](#)).

Provisions

1. Mandates SBE, in the high school social studies academic standards, include a comparative discussion of political ideologies that conflict with the principles of freedom and democracy that are essential to the United States' founding principles. (Sec. 1)
2. States SBE is not required to include the comparative discussion of political ideologies until SBE next updates the high school social studies academic standards. (Sec. 3)
3. Instructs SBE to work with specified entities to:
 - a) Develop civic education standards that schools must include; and
 - b) Establish, by January 1, 2023, a list of oral history resources to be used along with the civic education standards. (Sec. 2)
4. Specifies SBE is not required to develop the civic education standards until SBE next updates the high school social studies academic standards. (Sec. 3)
5. Specifies that the civic education standards must include instruction on:
 - a) The original intent of the United States' founding documents and principles as found in source documents; and
 - b) The civic-minded expectations of an upright and desirable citizenry that recognizes and accepts responsibility for preserving and defending the blessings of liberty inherited from prior generations and secured by the United States Constitution. (Sec. 2)

<input type="checkbox"/> Prop 105 (45 votes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Prop 108 (40 votes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency (40 votes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal Note
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6. Details that the oral history resources are to provide portraits of patriotism based on first-person accounts of victims of other nations' governing philosophies who can compare those philosophies with those of the United States. (Sec. 2)