

REFERENCE TITLE: civics education pilot program; continuation

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2024

HB 2882

Introduced by
Representative Contreras P

AN ACT

AMENDING LAWS 2018, CHAPTER 289, SECTION 3, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2019,
CHAPTER 265, SECTION 22; RELATING TO SCHOOL CURRICULA.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Laws 2018, chapter 289, section 3, as amended by Laws
3 2019, chapter 265, section 22, is amended to read:

4 Sec. 3. American civics education pilot program; reporting
5 requirements; fund; delayed repeal

6 A. The department of education shall develop a ~~five-year~~ TEN-YEAR
7 pilot program to begin in the 2019-2020 school year for American civics
8 education in grades nine through twelve to enhance the focus on American
9 civics education in schools selected to participate in the pilot program.
10 The department of education shall develop application procedures and
11 selection criteria for school districts, district schools and charter
12 schools that voluntarily decide to participate in the pilot program for
13 five consecutive years. SCHOOL DISTRICTS, DISTRICT SCHOOLS AND CHARTER
14 SCHOOLS THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM FOR THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD
15 BEGINNING IN THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR MAY APPLY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
16 PILOT PROGRAM FOR THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD BEGINNING IN THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL
17 YEAR. The number of school districts, district schools and charter
18 schools selected to participate in the pilot program FOR EACH FIVE-YEAR
19 PERIOD shall proportionally reflect the number of school districts,
20 district schools and charter schools in Arizona. School districts that
21 apply to participate in the pilot program may apply for either of the
22 entire school district or one or multiple schools within the school
23 district to participate. FOR THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD BEGINNING IN THE
24 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL UPDATE THE
25 APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND SELECTION CRITERIA TO ALLOW JUVENILE DETENTION
26 CENTERS TO APPLY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM. The state board of
27 education shall approve each school district, district school, ~~and~~
28 school AND JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER selected by the department of
29 education to participate in the pilot program FOR EACH FIVE-YEAR PERIOD.

30 B. The department of education shall consider the extent to which a
31 school district, district school, ~~or~~ charter school OR JUVENILE DETENTION
32 CENTER that applies to participate in the pilot program currently provides
33 American civics education for high school students and shall prioritize
34 school districts, district schools, ~~and~~ charter schools AND JUVENILE
35 DETENTION CENTERS that it determines currently provide fewer instructional
36 hours on American civics education.

37 C. Each school district, district school, ~~or~~ charter school OR
38 JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER selected to participate in the pilot program
39 shall:

40 1. Administer the assessment of American civics education selected
41 pursuant to subsection D of this section.

42 2. Require at least one American civics course lasting at least one
43 school semester. The curriculum for American civics courses offered
44 through the pilot program shall be determined by the individual school or

1 school district and may be administered through a digital software
2 program.

3 D. The department of education shall:

4 1. Subject to approval by the state board of education, submit a
5 request for proposals to assessment providers to deliver an assessment of
6 American civics education that the department of education determines to
7 be a more rigorous measure of American civics education than the test that
8 is identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the
9 United States citizenship and immigration services pursuant to section
10 15-701.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, and that can be made available to
11 pupils in high schools selected to participate in the pilot program.

12 2. Establish the format of the applications, application procedures
13 and selection criteria for assessment providers that wish to submit a
14 proposal to deliver a qualifying American civics education assessment
15 pursuant to this subsection.

16 3. Subject to approval by the state board of education, select and
17 award a contract to one assessment provider to deliver the American civics
18 education assessment pursuant to this subsection.

19 4. Subject to approval by the state board of education, determine
20 the cut score on the assessment selected pursuant to this subsection to
21 determine proficiency in American civics education pursuant to this
22 section.

23 E. The assessment selected pursuant to subsection D of this section
24 is required to be administered to each pupil attending a participating
25 high school. School districts, district schools, ~~and~~ charter schools **AND**
26 **JUVENILE DETENTION CENTERS** selected to participate in the pilot program
27 are exempt from administering the test that is identical to the civics
28 portion of the naturalization test used by the United States citizenship
29 and immigration services pursuant to section 15-701.01, Arizona Revised
30 Statutes, **IN EACH SCHOOL YEAR THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, DISTRICT SCHOOL,**
31 **CHARTER SCHOOL OR JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER PARTICIPATES IN THE PILOT**
32 **PROGRAM.**

33 F. If the department of education determines on an annual basis
34 that a ~~school or~~ school district, **DISTRICT SCHOOL, CHARTER SCHOOL OR**
35 **JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER** is not adequately educating pupils participating
36 in the pilot program, the department may terminate the participation of
37 ~~a school or~~ **THE** school district, **DISTRICT SCHOOL, CHARTER SCHOOL OR**
38 **JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER** in the pilot program, subject to approval by the
39 state board of education. The department of education shall consider the
40 performance of pupils on the assessment selected pursuant to subsection D
41 of this section when considering the termination of the participation of a
42 ~~school or~~ school district, **DISTRICT SCHOOL, CHARTER SCHOOL OR JUVENILE**
43 **DETENTION CENTER** in the pilot program.

44 G. On or before September 31, 2019, the department of education
45 shall submit to the governor, the president of the senate and the speaker

1 of the house of representatives a progress report on the development and
2 administration of the pilot program established pursuant to this section.
3 The department shall submit a copy of this report to the secretary of
4 state.

5 H. On or before September 1, 2020 and each year thereafter through
6 the ~~2023-2024~~ 2029-2030 school year, the department of education shall
7 submit a report detailing pupil results on the American civics education
8 assessment administered pursuant to subsection D of this section to the
9 governor, the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of
10 representatives and the state board of education. The department of
11 education shall submit a copy of this report to the secretary of state.

12 I. The American civics education fund is established consisting of
13 legislative appropriations and other monies transferred to the fund. The
14 department of education shall administer the fund. Monies in the fund are
15 continuously appropriated. Monies in the fund shall be used for the
16 American civics education pilot program established pursuant to this
17 section. Monies in the fund are exempt from the provisions of section
18 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating to lapsing of appropriations.

19 J. This section is repealed from and after December 31, ~~2024~~ 2030.