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## SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Benjamin Allen, Chair

2017 - 2018 Regular

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<b>Bill No:</b>	SB 135	<b>Hearing Date:</b>	April 19, 2017
<b>Author:</b>	Dodd		
<b>Version:</b>	April 4, 2017		
<b>Urgency:</b>	No	<b>Fiscal:</b>	Yes
<b>Consultant:</b>	Brandon Darnell		

**Subject:** Pupil instruction: media literacy

### SUMMARY

This bill requires the Instructional Quality Commission to develop, and the State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt, modify, or revise, a model curriculum in media literacy for social sciences for grades 1 to 12, inclusive.

### BACKGROUND

Existing Law:

- 1) Establishes the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC), formerly known as the Curriculum Commission, as an advisory body to the SBE. The IQC is an advisory body to the SBE and is responsible for recommending curriculum frameworks, developing criteria for the evaluation of instructional materials, and evaluating and recommending adoption of instructional materials. (Education Code § 33530 and § 60204)
- 2) Requires the IQC to develop, and the SBE to adopt, a model curriculum in ethnic studies, as specified. (EC § 51226.7)
- 3) Requires the IQC, before recommending a curriculum framework and evaluation criteria to the SBE, to do all of the following:
  - a) Direct the appropriate Subject Matter Committee to consider the draft curriculum framework and evaluation criteria developed by the Curriculum Framework and Evaluation Criteria Committee, if applicable, and submit its recommendation to the IQC.
  - b) Consider the recommendation from the Subject Matter Committee.
  - c) Approve a draft curriculum framework and evaluation criteria and make it available for public review and comment for a minimum of 60 days. The California Department of Education (CDE) is required ensure that the draft curriculum framework and evaluation criteria are posted on the CDE's website and available at Learning Resources Display Centers during this period.

- d) Hold at least one publicly-noticed meeting to receive comment on the draft curriculum framework and evaluation criteria, as specified. (Title 5, §9515 of the California Code of Regulations)

## ANALYSIS

This bill requires the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) to develop, and the State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt, modify, or revise, a model curriculum in media literacy for social sciences for grades 1 to 12, inclusive. Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Requires the IQC, on or before January 1, 2019, to submit the model curriculum in media literacy to the state board for adoption and requires the SBE to adopt the model curriculum on or before March 31, 2019.
- 2) Requires the model curriculum in media literacy to be written as a guide to allow school districts to adapt their courses to reflect emerging technologies in their communities.
- 3) Specifies that the components of media literacy may be designed to include the ability to measure 21st century skills of teachers and pupils using the international standards defined by the International Society for Technology in Education so that teachers may effectively use technology and digital resources within their instructional day, measure and teach the critical 21st century skills pupils need to succeed on California's next-generation online assessments, and prepare pupils for college and career objectives. The skills to be measured may include, but are not limited to, all of the following:
  - a) Creativity and innovation.
  - b) Communication and collaboration.
  - c) Research and information fluency.
  - d) Critical thinking and problem-solving.
  - e) Digital citizenship.
  - f) Technology operations and concepts.
  - g) Information, media, and technological literacy.
  - h) Concepts of media representation and stereotyping.
- 4) Requires the IQC to provide a minimum of 45 days for public comment before submitting the model curriculum in media literacy to the SBE.
- 5) Requires the SBE, in the next revision of instructional materials or curriculum frameworks in the social sciences for grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to ensure that media literacy is integrated into the social sciences curriculum to the extent the SBE deems appropriate.

- 6) Requires the California Department of Education (CDE) to:
  - a) Make available to school districts on its Internet Web site a list of resources and materials on media literacy, to be accessible for use on or before January 1, 2018, and to include a mechanism accessible to school districts and teachers to provide feedback.
  - b) Ensure that approved media literacy training opportunities are made available for use in professional development programs for teachers.

## STAFF COMMENTS

- 1) ***Need for the bill.*** According to the author, “There have been numerous research reports published recently that highlight the need for media literacy education. Such research includes ‘Many Americans Believe Fake News is Sowing Confusion’ by the Pew Research Center (2016); and ‘Evaluating Information: The Cornerstone of Civic Online Reasoning’ by the Stanford History Education Group (2016). A recent Stanford study shows 82 percent of middle school students struggle to distinguish advertisements from news stories.”

“It is important that California’s educational standards reflect the need for increased media literacy, so that young adults have the ability to analyze and evaluate information consumed from countless media outlets.”

“Access to technology literacy and digital media skills education for all young students is a challenge, especially for underrepresented and economically disadvantaged communities. With over 90 percent of young adults present on social media, it is important to ensure young adults are prepared with technology literacy and computer skills in order to utilize social media sites responsibly.”

- 2) ***Current history-social science framework and model curriculum.*** Academic content standards define the knowledge, concepts, and skills that students should acquire at each grade level. Curricular frameworks are the blueprint for implementing the standards, and include criteria by which instructional materials are evaluated. Model curriculum provides teachers with comprehensive information on a topic that may be used to create lessons or courses. Model curriculum provides instructional guidance, but is not required. The history-social science framework was last adopted on July 14, 2016. School districts currently have the authority to provide instruction based on model curriculum or other resources, including instruction relative to media literacy.

This committee has adopted a policy that strongly discourages the introduction of measures that propose to require, or require consideration of, modifications to state curriculum through changes to the curriculum frameworks. This policy does not apply to legislation that proposes the development of model curricula, the revision of existing standards, curriculum mandates, or the establishments of new subjects or new sets of standards.

This bill proposes to require the State Board of Education (SBE), in the next revision of instructional materials or curriculum frameworks in the social sciences for grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to ensure that media literacy is integrated into the social sciences curriculum to the extent the SBE deems appropriate.

**Author amendment:** The author would like to amend the bill to remove that requirement in subdivision (h), consistent with this committee's policy. **Staff recommends** that the bill be amended to reflect the author's proposed amendment.

- 3) **Additional author amendments.** The author would like to amend subdivision (d) on page 5, as follows: "(d) Components of media literacy may be designed to include the ability to measure 21st century skills of teachers and pupils using the international standards that may include those defined by the International Society for Technology in Education, so that teachers may effectively use technology and digital resources within their instructional day, measure and teach the critical 21st century skills pupils need to succeed on California's next-generation online assessments, and prepare pupils for college and career objectives. The skills to be measured may include, but are not limited to, all of the following:"

**Staff recommends** that the bill be amended to reflect the author's proposed amendments.

- 4) **Timing.** This bill requires the California Department of Education (CDE) to make a list of resources and materials on media literacy available to school districts on its Internet Web site, to be accessible for use on or before January 1, 2018. This bill does not take effect until that date.

**Author amendment:** The author would like to amend the bill to make that date July 1, 2018. **Staff recommends** that the bill be amended to reflect the author's proposed amendment.

- 5) **Related and previous legislation.**

*Related legislation:*

SB 203 (Jackson, 2017) would require the CDE, on or before December 1, 2018, in consultation with an advisory committee, to identify best practices and recommendations for instruction in digital citizenship, Internet safety, and media literacy, and to report to the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature on strategies to implement the best practices and recommendations statewide. SB 203 is scheduled to be heard by this committee on April 19, 2017.

AB 617 (Gomez, 2017) would require the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) to ensure that information on preregistering to vote is included in the next revision of the History-Social Science curriculum framework. AB 617 is scheduled to be heard by the Assembly Committee on Education on April 26, 2017.

AB 838 (Levine, 2017) would require the IQC, during the next revision of the history-social science curriculum framework after January 1, 2018, to consider including, and recommending for adoption by the state board, high school instruction regarding Russian interference with the 2016 United States presidential election, as appropriate. The bill would require the State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt, modify, or reject the curriculum framework recommended by the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC). AB 838 is scheduled to be heard by the Assembly Committee on Education on April 26, 2017.

*Previous legislation:*

AB 2016 (Alejo, Ch. 327, Stats. 2016) requires the IQC to develop, and the SBE to adopt, a model curriculum in ethnic studies, as specified. The bill also encourages school districts and charter schools to offer an ethnic studies course based on the model curriculum to students in grades 9-12

SB 1435 (Jackson, Ch. 633, Stats. 2016) requires that the next revision of the Health Framework for California Public Schools include information for kindergarten through grade 8 on healthy relationships.

AB 2864 (Chau, Ch. 648, Stats 2016) requires that the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, the Geary Act of 1892, and other laws be considered in the next cycle in which the history-social science curriculum framework and its accompanying instructional materials are adopted.

AB 2546 (Calderon, Ch. 616, Stats. 2016) requires that, when the history-social science curriculum framework is revised after January 1, 2017, the IQC include specified content on financial literacy.

## **SUPPORT**

American Academy of Pediatrics  
California Federation of Teachers  
California Newspaper Publishers Association  
California School Libraries Association  
California State PTA  
Center for Media Literacy  
Common Sense Kids Action  
Los Angeles County Democratic Party  
Mike Thompson, Member of Congress  
Mount Saint Mary's University Elementary Teacher Preparation Program  
UCLA's Teacher Education Program  
Yolo County Office of Education

## **OPPOSITION**

None received.

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