

1 HB22  
2 138892-1  
3 By Representative Todd  
4 RFD: Education Policy  
5 First Read: 05-FEB-13  
6 PFD: 12/07/2012

2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8 SYNOPSIS: Existing law specifies the minimum contents  
9 of a public K-12 school sex education program or  
10 curriculum.

11 This bill would delete certain legislative  
12 findings relating to responsible sexual behavior  
13 and would repeal the minimum curriculum content  
14 requirements for sex education programs.

15  
16 A BILL  
17 TO BE ENTITLED  
18 AN ACT

19  
20 To amend Section 16-40A-1, Code of Alabama 1975,  
21 providing legislative intent for sex education and drug and  
22 alcohol abuse education in the public K-12 schools; to delete  
23 certain legislative findings relating to responsible sexual  
24 behavior; and to repeal Section 16-40A-2, Code of Alabama  
25 1975, providing for the minimum contents of public K-12 school  
26 sex education program or curriculum.

27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

1           Section 1. Section 16-40A-1 of the Code of Alabama  
2 1975, is amended to read as follows:

3           "§16-40A-1.

4           "(a) The Legislature finds that:

5           "~~(1) Pregnancy and childbirth among unmarried~~  
6 ~~adolescents, particularly young adolescents, often results in~~  
7 ~~severe adverse health, social, and economic consequences,~~  
8 ~~including: a higher percentage of pregnancy and childbirth~~  
9 ~~complications; a higher incidence of low birth weight babies;~~  
10 ~~a higher frequency of developmental disabilities; higher~~  
11 ~~infant mortality and morbidity; a decreased likelihood of~~  
12 ~~completing school; a greater likelihood that an adolescent~~  
13 ~~marriage will end in divorce; and higher risks of unemployment~~  
14 ~~and welfare dependency.~~

15           "~~(2) Drug drug and alcohol abuse diminish the~~  
16 ~~strength and vitality of the young people of our nation and~~  
17 ~~state; an increasing number of substances, both legal and~~  
18 ~~illegal, are being abused by increasing numbers of school~~  
19 ~~children, even at the grade school level; abuse of any~~  
20 ~~substance causes human behavior that influences many forces,~~  
21 ~~including school, family, church, community, media, and peer~~  
22 ~~groups. Prevention and early intervention in such behavior~~  
23 ~~requires cooperation and coordination involving strategies~~  
24 ~~designed to respond to carefully defined problems in which the~~  
25 ~~education system of the state can play an important role.~~

26           "(b) The ~~purposes~~ purpose of this chapter ~~are:~~ is to

1           ~~"(1) To find effective means, within the context of~~  
2 ~~the school environment, of reaching adolescents before they~~  
3 ~~become sexually active in order to maximize the guidance and~~  
4 ~~support available to adolescents from teachers, parents, and~~  
5 ~~other family members, and to promote self discipline and other~~  
6 ~~prudent approaches to the problem of premarital sexual~~  
7 ~~relations of adolescents, including adolescent pregnancy.~~

8           ~~"(2) To encourage the prevention of alcohol and drug~~  
9 ~~abuse among children in the public schools; to stimulate the~~  
10 ~~development of improved approaches to the prevention of~~  
11 ~~alcohol and drug abuse; to demonstrate the use of such~~  
12 ~~approaches in model educational programs and to evaluate the~~  
13 ~~effectiveness thereof; to disseminate successful approaches~~  
14 ~~and significant information for use in educational programs~~  
15 ~~throughout the public schools; and to provide training~~  
16 ~~programs for school administrators, teachers, and counselors."~~

17           Section 2. All laws or parts of laws which conflict  
18 with this act are repealed. Specifically, Section 16-40A-2,  
19 providing for the minimum contents to be included in sex  
20 education curriculum, is repealed.

21           Section 3. This act shall become effective on the  
22 first day of the third month following its passage and  
23 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.