

SENATE BILL No. 378

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-30-5-7; IC 20-34-3-4.

Synopsis: Mental health education and screenings. Requires a school corporation's health education curriculum to include mental health wellness education. Provides that the governing body of a school corporation may provide mental health screenings to students if the governing body receives written consent from a student's parent or guardian to provide a mental health screening to the student. Requires the department of education to provide a school corporation with resources regarding mental health wellness upon request by the school corporation.

Effective: July 1, 2020.

Mrvan

January 13, 2020, read first time and referred to Committee on Education and Career Development.



Second Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2020)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 378



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-30-5-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.97-2019,
2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 7. **(a) As used in this section, "mental health
4 wellness education" means the provision of information concerning
5 mental health and mental wellness, including bringing awareness
6 to the following:**
7 **(1) The stigma associated with mental illness.**
8 **(2) Resources to seek help and support concerning mental
9 health.**
10 **(3) The importance of positive mental health.**
11 **(4) Experiences and understanding of mental health and
12 mental illness.**
13 **(b)** Each school corporation shall include in the school
14 corporation's curriculum the following studies:
15 (1) Language arts, including:
16 (A) English;
17 (B) grammar;



- 1 (C) composition;
 2 (D) speech; and
 3 (E) second languages.
 4 (2) Mathematics.
 5 (3) Social studies and citizenship, including the:
 6 (A) constitutions;
 7 (B) governmental systems; and
 8 (C) histories;
 9 of Indiana and the United States, including an enhanced study of
 10 the Holocaust in each high school United States history course.
 11 As part of the United States government credit awarded for the
 12 general, Core 40, Core 40 with academic honors, and Core 40
 13 with technical honors designation, each high school shall
 14 administer the naturalization examination provided by the United
 15 States Citizenship and Immigration Services.
 16 (4) Sciences, including, after June 30, 2021, computer science.
 17 (5) Fine arts, including music and art.
 18 (6) Health education, **including:**
 19 (A) physical fitness;
 20 (B) safety; ~~and~~
 21 (C) the effects of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances
 22 on the human body; **and**
 23 (D) **mental health wellness education, including topics**
 24 **relating to any of the following:**
 25 (i) **Anxiety disorders.**
 26 (ii) **Hyperactivity disorders.**
 27 (iii) **Eating disorders.**
 28 (iv) **Self-mutilation.**
 29 (v) **Depression.**
 30 (vi) **Schizophrenia.**
 31 (vii) **The causes, prevention, and cure and control of**
 32 **mental illness without stigma or emotional harm.**
 33 (7) Additional studies selected by each governing body, subject
 34 to revision by the state board.
 35 ~~(b)~~ (c) Each:
 36 (1) school corporation;
 37 (2) charter school; and
 38 (3) accredited nonpublic school;
 39 shall offer the study of ethnic and racial groups as a one (1) semester
 40 elective course in its high school curriculum at least once every school
 41 year.
 42 ~~(e)~~ (d) The course described in subsection ~~(b)~~ (c) may be offered by



1 the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school
2 through a course access program administered by the department.

3 SECTION 2. IC 20-34-3-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005, SECTION
4 18, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
5 2020]: Sec. 4. **(a)** The governing body of a school corporation may
6 provide for the inspection of students by a school physician to
7 determine whether any child suffers from disease, disability, decayed
8 teeth, or other defects that may reduce the student's efficiency or
9 prevent the student from receiving the full benefit of the student's
10 school work.

11 **(b) The governing body of a school corporation may provide**
12 **mental health screenings to students if the governing body has**
13 **received written consent from a student's parent or guardian to**
14 **provide a mental health screening to the student.**

15 **(c) The department shall provide a school corporation with**
16 **resources regarding mental health wellness upon request by the**
17 **school corporation.**

