

SENATE BILL NO. 1047

Offered January 20, 1999

A BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-207.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to family life education in the public schools.

Patron—Forbes

Referred to Committee on Education and Health

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 22.1-207.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 22.1-207.1. Family life education.

The Board of Education shall develop by December 1, 1987, standards of learning and curriculum guidelines for a comprehensive, sequential family life education curriculum in grades K through 12. Such curriculum guidelines shall include instruction as appropriate for the age of the student in family living and community relationships, *abstinence education*, the value of postponing sexual activity, human sexuality, human reproduction, and the etiology, prevention and effects of sexually transmitted diseases. All such instruction shall be designed to promote parental involvement, foster positive self concepts and provide mechanisms for coping with peer pressure and the stresses of modern living according to the students' developmental stages and abilities. The Board shall also establish by December 1, 1987, requirements for appropriate training for teachers of family life education.

By December 1, 1987, the Board of Education shall provide the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance an analysis of the state and local fiscal impact of implementing a mandatory statewide family life education program and a recommended apportionment of state and local funding for such programs if not otherwise determined by law.

For the purposes of this section, "abstinence education" means an educational or motivational program which has as its exclusive purpose teaching the social, psychological, and health gains to be realized by teenagers abstaining from sexual activity and teaches:

- 1. That abstinence from sexual activity outside marriage is the expected standard for all school-age children;
- 2. That abstinence from sexual activity is the only certain way to avoid out-of-wedlock pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and other associated health problems;
- 3. That a mutually faithful monogamous relationship in the context of marriage is the expected standard of human sexuality;
- 4. That sexual activity outside the context of marriage is likely to have harmful psychological and physical effects; and
- 5. How to reject sexual advances and how alcohol and drug use increase vulnerability to such advances.