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PARENTAL PERMISSION FOR CLASSES

House Bill 5094
Sponsor: Rep. Janet Kukuk
Committee: Education

Complete to 11-5-99

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5094 AS INTRODUCED 11-3-99

House Bill 5094 would amend the Revised School Code to specify that teaching about a) dangerous communicable diseases (including but not limited to human immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome), b) reproductive health, and c) sex education (including family planning, human sexuality, and the emotional, physical, psychological, hygienic, economic, and social aspects of family life) could not be presented to a pupil in a course, class, or any type of presentation at school unless the pupil's parent or legal guardian enrolled the pupil in the course, class, or presentation.

Under the bill, the board of a school district would have to ensure that for any course, class, or presentation of this kind, a pupil's parent was 1) notified in advance of the availability and the content; 2) given a prior opportunity to review the materials to be used; and, 3) provided with the opportunity to enroll the pupil. House Bill 5094 would require the State Board of Education to determine the form and content of the required notice. The bill also specifies that a pupil who was not enrolled in a course, class, or presentation that includes teaching about these subjects would be excused from the course without penalty or loss of academic credit.

Finally, House Bill 5094 would require that the superintendent of public instruction, in cooperation with the Department of Community Health, train people to provide the teacher training required for the development and distribution to school districts of material about the teaching of human immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome to young people. Under current law, this responsibility rests with the State Board of Education.

MCL 380.1169, 380.1506, and 380.1507

Analyst: J. Hunault

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.