

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1685

5 By: Representative C. Douglas
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO INCLUDE DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS IN THE
9 CURRICULUM FOR HEALTH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

11 AN ACT TO INCLUDE DATING VIOLENCE
12 AWARENESS IN THE CURRICULUM FOR HEALTH.
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 10, is
20 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

21 6-16-1004. Dating violence awareness.

22 (a) Annually, in either the month of October for a one-semester course
23 taught in the fall or the month of February for a one-semester course taught
24 in the spring, a unit on dating violence awareness shall be taught as a
25 component of a health course offered in grades seven through twelve (7-12).

26 (b) A unit on dating violence awareness shall:

27 (1) Focus on healthy relationships, including the
28 characteristics of healthy relationships;

29 (2) Teach students the definition of dating violence and abuse,
30 including without limitation:

31 (A) Warning signs of dating violence and abusive behavior;
32 and

33 (B) Measures to stop or prevent dating violence and
34 abusive behavior;

35 (3) Inform students about resources and reporting procedures for
36 dating violence or abuse; and



1 (4) Examine the common misconceptions and stereotypes about
 2 dating violence and abuse.

3 (c)(1) Materials used to teach a unit in dating violence awareness
 4 shall be age appropriate.

5 (2) Information provided shall be objective and based on
 6 scientific research that is peer-reviewed and accepted by professionals and
 7 credentialed experts in the field of health education.

8 (d) The Department of Education shall annually provide a list of
 9 source materials available for school districts to use to teach a unit on
 10 dating violence awareness, including without limitation materials from:

11 (1) The Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence;

12 (2) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

13 (3) The National Domestic Violence Hotline;

14 (4) The National Institute of Health; and

15 (5) Other sources of scientifically based research that is peer-
 16 reviewed.

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