



January 27, 2012

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## SENATE BILL No. 83

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DIGEST OF SB 83 (Updated January 25, 2012 3:40 pm - DI 116)

**Citations Affected:** IC 20-30; IC 20-51.

**Synopsis:** Cursive writing in school curriculum. Requires each school corporation to include cursive writing in the curriculum of the school corporation. Requires an accredited nonpublic school that participates in the choice scholarship program to include cursive writing in the school's curriculum.

**Effective:** July 1, 2012.

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**Leising, Kruse, Delph, Grooms,  
Waterman, Gard, Becker, Randolph,  
Skinner, Steele, Smith J, Arnold,  
Miller**

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January 4, 2012, read first time and referred to Committee on Education and Career Development.  
January 26, 2012, reported favorably — Do Pass.

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SB 83—LS 6293/DI 71+



January 27, 2012

Second Regular Session 117th General Assembly (2012)

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 2011 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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## SENATE BILL No. 83

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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.86-2007,  
2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 7. Each school corporation shall include in the  
4 school corporation's curriculum the following studies:  
5 (1) Language arts, including:  
6 (A) English;  
7 (B) grammar;  
8 (C) composition;  
9 (D) speech; ~~and~~  
10 (E) second languages; **and**  
11 (F) **cursive writing**.  
12 (2) Mathematics.  
13 (3) Social studies and citizenship, including the:  
14 (A) constitutions;  
15 (B) governmental systems; and  
16 (C) histories;  
17 of Indiana and the United States, including a study of the

SB 83—LS 6293/DI 71+



- 1 Holocaust in each high school United States history course.
- 2 (4) Sciences.
- 3 (5) Fine arts, including music and art.
- 4 (6) Health education, physical fitness, safety, and the effects of
- 5 alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances on the human body.
- 6 (7) Additional studies selected by each governing body, subject
- 7 to revision by the state board.

8 SECTION 2. IC 20-51-4-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.92-2011,  
 9 SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 10 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. (a) Except as provided under subsections (b)  
 11 through (h), it is the intent of the general assembly to honor the  
 12 autonomy of nonpublic schools that choose to become eligible schools  
 13 under this chapter. A nonpublic eligible school is not an agent of the  
 14 state or federal government, and therefore:

- 15 (1) the department or any other state agency may not in any way
- 16 regulate the educational program of a nonpublic eligible school
- 17 that accepts a choice scholarship under this chapter, including the
- 18 regulation of curriculum content, religious instruction or
- 19 activities, classroom teaching, teacher and staff hiring
- 20 requirements, and other activities carried out by the eligible
- 21 school;
- 22 (2) the creation of the choice scholarship program does not
- 23 expand the regulatory authority of the state, the state's officers, or
- 24 a school corporation to impose additional regulation of nonpublic
- 25 schools beyond those necessary to enforce the requirements of the
- 26 choice scholarship program in place on July 1, 2011; and
- 27 (3) a nonpublic eligible school shall be given the freedom to
- 28 provide for the educational needs of students without
- 29 governmental control.

30 (b) This section applies to the following writings, documents, and  
 31 records:

- 32 (1) The Constitution of the United States.
- 33 (2) The national motto.
- 34 (3) The national anthem.
- 35 (4) The Pledge of Allegiance.
- 36 (5) The Constitution of the State of Indiana.
- 37 (6) The Declaration of Independence.
- 38 (7) The Mayflower Compact.
- 39 (8) The Federalist Papers.
- 40 (9) "Common Sense" by Thomas Paine.
- 41 (10) The writings, speeches, documents, and proclamations of the
- 42 founding fathers and presidents of the United States.

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- 1 (11) United States Supreme Court decisions.  
 2 (12) Executive orders of the presidents of the United States.  
 3 (13) Frederick Douglas' Speech at Rochester, New York, on July  
 4 5, 1852, entitled "What to a Slave is the Fourth of July?".  
 5 (14) Appeal by David Walker.  
 6 (15) Chief Seattle's letter to the United States government in 1852  
 7 in response to the United States government's inquiry regarding  
 8 the purchase of tribal lands.
- 9 (c) An eligible school may allow a principal or teacher in the  
 10 eligible school to read or post in the school building or classroom or at  
 11 a school event any excerpt or part of a writing, document, or record  
 12 listed in subsection (b).
- 13 (d) An eligible school may not permit the content based censorship  
 14 of American history or heritage based on religious references in a  
 15 writing, document, or record listed in subsection (b).
- 16 (e) A library, a media center, or an equivalent facility that an  
 17 eligible school maintains for student use must contain in the facility's  
 18 permanent collection at least one (1) copy of each writing or document  
 19 listed in subsection (b)(1) through (b)(9).
- 20 (f) An eligible school shall do the following:
- 21 (1) Allow a student to include a reference to a writing, document,  
 22 or record listed in subsection (b) in a report or other work product.  
 23 (2) May not punish the student in any way, including a reduction  
 24 in grade, for using the reference.  
 25 (3) Display the United States flag in each classroom.  
 26 (4) Provide a daily opportunity for students to voluntarily recite  
 27 the Pledge of Allegiance in each classroom or on school grounds.  
 28 A student is exempt from participation in the Pledge of  
 29 Allegiance and may not be required to participate in the Pledge of  
 30 Allegiance if:  
 31 (A) the student chooses to not participate; or  
 32 (B) the student's parent chooses to have the student not  
 33 participate.
- 34 (5) Provide instruction on the constitutions of:  
 35 (A) Indiana; and  
 36 (B) the United States.
- 37 (6) For an eligible school that enrolls students in grades 6 through  
 38 12, provide within the two (2) weeks preceding a general election  
 39 five (5) full recitation periods of class discussion concerning:  
 40 (A) the system of government in Indiana and in the United  
 41 States;  
 42 (B) methods of voting;

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- 1 (C) party structures;  
 2 (D) election laws; and  
 3 (E) the responsibilities of citizen participation in government  
 4 and in elections.
- 5 (7) Require that each teacher employed by the eligible school  
 6 present instruction with special emphasis on:
- 7 (A) honesty;  
 8 (B) morality;  
 9 (C) courtesy;  
 10 (D) obedience to law;  
 11 (E) respect for the national flag and the Constitution of the  
 12 State of Indiana and the Constitution of the United States;  
 13 (F) respect for parents and the home;  
 14 (G) the dignity and necessity of honest labor; and  
 15 (H) other lessons of a steadying influence that tend to promote  
 16 and develop an upright and desirable citizenry.
- 17 (8) Provide good citizenship instruction that stresses the nature  
 18 and importance of the following:
- 19 (A) Being honest and truthful.  
 20 (B) Respecting authority.  
 21 (C) Respecting the property of others.  
 22 (D) Always doing the student's personal best.  
 23 (E) Not stealing.  
 24 (F) Possessing the skills (including methods of conflict  
 25 resolution) necessary to live peaceably in society and not  
 26 resorting to violence to settle disputes.  
 27 (G) Taking personal responsibility for obligations to family  
 28 and community.  
 29 (H) Taking personal responsibility for earning a livelihood.  
 30 (I) Treating others the way the student would want to be  
 31 treated.  
 32 (J) Respecting the national flag, the Constitution of the United  
 33 States, and the Constitution of the State of Indiana.  
 34 (K) Respecting the student's parents and home.  
 35 (L) Respecting the student's self.  
 36 (M) Respecting the rights of others to have their own views  
 37 and religious beliefs.
- 38 (9) Provide instruction in the following studies:
- 39 (A) Language arts, including:  
 40 (i) English;  
 41 (ii) grammar;  
 42 (iii) composition;

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- 1 (iv) speech; ~~and~~
- 2 (v) second languages; **and**
- 3 **(vi) cursive writing.**
- 4 (B) Mathematics.
- 5 (C) Social studies and citizenship, including the:
- 6 (i) constitutions;
- 7 (ii) governmental systems; and
- 8 (iii) histories;
- 9 of Indiana and the United States, including a study of the
- 10 Holocaust and the role religious extremism played in the
- 11 events of September 11, 2001, in each high school United
- 12 States history course.
- 13 (D) Sciences.
- 14 (E) Fine arts, including music and art.
- 15 (F) Health education, physical fitness, safety, and the effects
- 16 of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances on the human
- 17 body.
- 18 (g) An eligible school, charter school, or public school shall not
- 19 teach the violent overthrow of the government of the United States.
- 20 (h) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the
- 21 requirements of IC 20-30-5.

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Education and Career Development, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 83, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill DO PASS.

(Reference is made to Senate Bill 83 as introduced.)

KRUSE, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 10, Nays 0.

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