



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB3503

Introduced 2/18/2025, by Rep. Curtis J. Tarver, II

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Illinois Curriculum Overview and Alignment Act. Requires, beginning January 1, 2026, the State Board of Education to conduct a comprehensive review of all mandated units of study every 5 years. Sets forth what the review shall include. Provides that the review process shall incorporate feedback from educators and administrators, parents and guardians, students, via surveys or focus groups, and subject matter experts and community organizations. Requires the State Board of Education to publish a public report summarizing findings and recommendations from the curriculum overview. Provides that following each curriculum overview, the State Board of Education shall: (1) develop an action plan to address identified gaps or areas for improvement; (2) provide professional development for educators on updates or changes; and (3) monitor the implementation of curriculum updates and assess their impact on student outcomes. Requires the General Assembly to appropriate funds necessary for the State Board of Education to carry out the requirements of the Act. Effective immediately.

LRB104 10368 LNS 20443 b

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Illinois Curriculum Overview and Alignment Act.

6 Section 5. Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to:

7 (1) Require the State Board of Education to conduct a
8 comprehensive review of mandated units of study every 5
9 years.

10 (2) Ensure that mandated curriculum aligns with
11 current societal needs, scientific advancements, and
12 educational best practices.

13 (3) Identify and address gaps in the curriculum to
14 support student development in critical areas.

15 Section 10. Definitions. As used in this Act:

16 "Comprehensive curriculum overview" refers to a systematic
17 review and evaluation of the mandated units of study,
18 including stakeholder engagement and analysis of instructional
19 outcomes.

20 "Mandated units of study" refers to all topics and
21 subjects required by State law to be included in public school
22 curricula.

1 Section 15. Curriculum overview requirements.

2 (a) Beginning January 1, 2026, the State Board of
3 Education shall conduct a comprehensive review of all mandated
4 units of study every 5 years.

5 (b) The review shall include:

6 (1) Alignment of mandated units with State and
7 national educational standards.

8 (2) Identification of redundancies or overlapping
9 content across grades and subjects.

10 (3) Evaluation of the inclusivity and cultural
11 relevance of the curriculum.

12 (4) Assessment of new areas of societal or
13 technological importance that may warrant inclusion, such
14 as digital citizenship, artificial intelligence, and
15 emerging global issues.

16 (5) A thorough study of all courses offered in State
17 public schools, including elective and core courses, to
18 ensure that they meet the needs of students in comparison
19 to other states.

20 (6) A specific evaluation of financial education,
21 analyzing why this State may lag behind other states in
22 this area and providing recommendations for improvement.

23 (7) A review of newly passed laws that mandate
24 additional instructional topics but have not yet been
25 implemented in the units of study. This includes assessing

1 the feasibility, resources required, and potential impact
2 of incorporating these topics into the curriculum.

3 (c) The State Board of Education shall include in its
4 review a focused section titled "Encompassing National
5 Review," which:

6 (1) Compares the State's curriculum offerings with
7 those of other top-performing states in the nation.

8 (2) Identifies best practices in curriculum design and
9 implementation adopted by these states.

10 (3) Evaluates areas where the State can improve to
11 position itself in the top tier of state education
12 systems.

13 (4) Highlights gaps in essential skills, such as
14 financial literacy, STEM readiness, global competency, and
15 workforce preparedness.

16 (d) The review process shall incorporate feedback from
17 educators and administrators, parents and guardians, students,
18 via surveys or focus groups, and subject matter experts and
19 community organizations.

20 (e) The State Board of Education shall publish a public
21 report summarizing findings and recommendations from the
22 curriculum overview.

23 The report shall include a comparative analysis of the
24 State's curriculum offerings with those of other states, with
25 an emphasis on financial education and other identified gaps.

26 The report shall include recommendations for implementing

1 newly mandated instructional topics not yet incorporated into
2 the curriculum.

3 The report shall be presented to the Governor, General
4 Assembly, and made publicly available on the State Board of
5 Education's website.

6 Section 20. Implementation and monitoring.

7 (a) Following each curriculum overview, the State Board of
8 Education shall:

9 (1) Develop an action plan to address identified gaps
10 or areas for improvement.

11 (2) Provide professional development for educators on
12 updates or changes.

13 (3) Monitor the implementation of curriculum updates
14 and assess their impact on student outcomes.

15 (b) The State Board of Education shall allocate
16 appropriate resources to support the curriculum review process
17 and subsequent updates.

18 Section 25. Funding. The General Assembly shall
19 appropriate funds necessary for the State Board of Education
20 to carry out the requirements of this Act, including
21 stakeholder engagement activities and research initiatives.

22 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
23 becoming law.