

As Amended by House Committee

Session of 2013

HOUSE BILL No. 2280

By Representatives Meigs, Boldra, Bradford, Brunk, Couture-Lovelady, DeGraaf, Dove, Gonzalez, Grosserode, Hermanson, Hibbard, Hildabrand, Hoffman, Jones, Kleeb, Lunn, Macheers, Mast, McPherson, Montgomery, O'Brien, Osterman, Powell, Read, Ryckman Jr., Ryckman Sr., Schwab, Siegfried, Sutton and Todd

2-8

1 AN ACT concerning school districts; establishing celebrate freedom week  
2 and related curriculum.

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4 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

5 Section 1. (a) In order to educate students about the sacrifices made  
6 for freedom in the founding of this country and the values on which this  
7 country was founded, ~~the week starting September 15, 2013, and the week~~  
8 of September containing the 17<sup>th</sup> day of such month in each year thereafter  
9 is hereby designated as "celebrate freedom week" in each public school.

10 (b) The state board of education, in cooperation with such other state  
11 agencies or private entities who voluntarily participate, shall promote  
12 "celebrate freedom week" through a coordinated program.

13 (c) For purposes of this section, Sunday is deemed to be the first day  
14 of the week.

15 Sec. 2. On or before December 31, ~~2014~~ **2013**, the state board of  
16 education shall adopt rules and regulations requiring appropriate  
17 instruction be provided as part of the curriculum on ~~civil~~ **history and**  
18 government concerning the original intent, meaning and importance of the  
19 declaration of independence and the United States constitution, including  
20 the bill of rights of the United States constitution, in their historical  
21 contexts. The religious references in the writings of the founding fathers  
22 shall not be censored when presented as part of such instruction. Such  
23 rules and regulations shall provide that the study of the declaration of  
24 independence include the study of the relationship of the ideas expressed  
25 in that document to subsequent American history, including the  
26 relationship of such ideas to the rich diversity of our people as a nation of  
27 immigrants, the American revolution, the formulation of the United States  
28 constitution and the abolitionist movement, which led to the emancipation  
29 proclamation and the women's suffrage movement. Such instruction shall  
30 be taught during "celebrate freedom week," established under section 1,  
31 and amendments thereto, or during such other full school week as  
32 determined by the board of education of the school district.

33 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
34 publication in the statute book.