

1 S.64

2 Introduced by Senators Rodgers and Starr

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Education; curriculum; science class; drug education

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the

7 Secretary of Education to develop the curriculum for a comprehensive

8 science-based drug education course and to require this course to be included

9 in the minimum course of study.

10 An act relating to science-based drug education

11 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

12 Sec. 1. DEVELOPMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE SCIENCE-BASED

13 DRUG EDUCATION COURSE

14 The Secretary of Education shall develop the curriculum for a

15 comprehensive science-based drug education course that shall be age

16 appropriate for students. The Secretary shall determine the grade or grades in

17 which the course shall be offered. This curriculum shall include the study of

18 the composition of major categories of prescription and nonprescription drugs,

19 including drugs that are illegal to possess or use, their impact on the human

20 body, and how to prevent their misuse.

1 Sec. 2. 16 V.S.A. § 906 is amended to read:

2 § 906. COURSE OF STUDY

3 (a) In public schools, approved and recognized independent schools, and ~~in~~
4 home study programs, learning experiences shall be provided for students in
5 the minimum course of study.

6 (b) For purposes of this title, the minimum course of study means learning
7 experiences adapted to a student's age and ability in the fields of:

8 (1) basic communication skills, including reading, writing, and the use
9 of numbers;

10 (2) citizenship, history, and government in Vermont and the United
11 States;

12 (3) physical education and comprehensive health education, including
13 the effects of tobacco, alcoholic drinks, and drugs on the human system and on
14 society;

15 (4) English, American, and other literature;

16 (5) the natural sciences; and

17 (6) the fine arts.

18 (c) The course of study set forth in subdivision (b)(3) of this section shall
19 include a comprehensive science-based drug education course. This course of
20 study shall include the study of the composition of major categories of
21 prescription and nonprescription drugs, including drugs that are illegal to

1 possess or use, their impact on the human body, and how to prevent their
2 misuse.

3 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATES

4 Sec. 1 and this section shall take effect on July 1, 2017. Sec. 2 shall take
5 effect on July 1, 2018.