

1 H.274

2 Introduced by Representatives Pearl of Danville, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Cole
3 of Hartford, Graham of Williamstown, Leavitt of Grand Isle,
4 Lipsky of Stowe, Mattos of Milton, O'Brien of Tunbridge, Rice
5 of Dorset, Sims of Craftsbury, Surprenant of Barnard,
6 Templeman of Brownington, and Wilson of Lyndon

7 Referred to Committee on

8 Date:

9 Subject: Education; course of study; agriculture and nutrition

10 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
11 Agency of Education, in conjunction with the Agency of Agriculture, Food and
12 Markets, to develop a statewide agriculture and nutrition education curriculum
13 and the State Board of Education and supervisory unions to ensure agriculture
14 and nutrition education is included in education quality standards and union-
15 wide curriculum. This bill also proposes to amend the minimum course of
16 study to include agriculture and nutrition education as a part of the natural
17 sciences field.

18 An act relating to agriculture and nutrition education

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

2 Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 914 is added to read:

3 § 914. AGRICULTURE AND NUTRITION EDUCATION

4 CURRICULUM

5 (a) The Secretary, in conjunction with the Agency of Agriculture, Food and
6 Markets, shall develop an agriculture and nutrition education curriculum for
7 elementary and secondary schools. The curriculum shall include teaching
8 about the cultivation of food, farming practices, and nutritional benefits.

9 (b) The State Board of Education shall ensure that agriculture and nutrition
10 education is included in its education quality standards under subdivision
11 165(a)(3)(B) of this title.

12 (c) Each supervisory union shall ensure that agriculture and nutrition
13 education is included in its union-wide curriculum.

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

15 § 906. COURSE OF STUDY

16 * * *

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

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

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

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

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

7 (5) the natural sciences, including agriculture and nutrition education;

8 and

9 (6) the fine arts.

10 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

11 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.