

HOUSE BILL 2595

By Dixie

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, relative to media literacy in public schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-1007, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection (g):

(g)

(1) An LEA shall include instruction on media literacy skills in a character education curriculum approved by the department of education under subsection (c).

(2) For purposes of this section, "media literacy" means the use or creation of media, digital products, and communication technology of all kinds, and the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, and create all forms of communication, encompassing the foundational skills of digital citizenship and internet safety, including the norms of appropriate, responsible, ethical, and healthy behavior, and cyberbullying prevention.

(3) The department is encouraged to post links to recommended resources for media literacy education to the department's website.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to the 2021-2022 school year and each school year thereafter.