

State of South Dakota

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2019

400B0375

HOUSE EDUCATION ENGROSSED NO. **HB 1066** - 2/8/2019

This bill has been extensively amended (hoghoused) and may no longer be consistent with the original intention of the sponsor.

Introduced by: The Committee on State Affairs at the request of the Office of the Governor

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to require students to take a citizenship test before
2 graduating from high school.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. That chapter 13-33 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

5 Each student enrolled in a school district or a state-accredited nonpublic school shall
6 demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals of the history, principles, and
7 form of the United States government, before graduating from high school. In order to receive
8 a high school diploma, a student shall correctly answer at least seventy percent of the questions
9 on the citizenship test. A student may take the test at any time after beginning grade nine and
10 may repeat the test as often as necessary to demonstrate proficiency.

11 For the purposes of this section, the citizenship test consists of ten questions from the one
12 hundred questions that, as of January 1, 2019, officers of the United States Citizenship and
13 Immigration Services use as the basis for selecting the questions posed to applicants for
14 naturalization, as required by 8 U.S.C. 1423. The ten questions shall be selected annually by the



1 secretary of education.

2 No school district or nonpublic school may charge any fee in connection with the citizenship
3 test. A student may be exempted from the requirements of this section if doing so is consistent
4 with the student's individualized education program.

5 Annually, each school district and nonpublic school shall report the score recorded for any
6 test administered under this section to the Department of Education. The report shall be made
7 in accordance with § 13-3-51.