

CHAPTER 7
SB 157-FN - FINAL VERSION

03/12/2015 0677s
03/12/2015 0840s
6Jan2016... 2498h

2016 SESSION

15-0796
04/09

SENATE BILL ***157-FN***

AN ACT requiring high school students to pass a competency assessment of the United States and New Hampshire government and civics.

SPONSORS: Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. Avarad, Dist 12; Sen. Reagan, Dist 17; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 21; Sen. Stiles, Dist 24; Rep. Weyler, Rock 13; Rep. Cordelli, Carr 4; Rep. Notter, Hills 21; Rep. Murotake, Hills 32

COMMITTEE: Education

AMENDED ANALYSIS

 This bill requires students in high school or equivalent to take and pass a government and civics competency assessment as a component of instruction in the history, government, and constitutions of the United States and New Hampshire.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struck through.]~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Sixteen

AN ACT requiring high school students to pass a competency assessment of the
United States and New Hampshire government and civics.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 7:1 School Boards; Instruction in National and State History and Government. Amend RSA
2 189:11 to read as follows:

3 189:11 Instruction in National and State History and Government.

4 ***I.*** In all public and private schools in the state there shall be given regular courses of
5 instruction in the history, government and constitutions of the United States and New Hampshire,
6 including the organization and operation of New Hampshire municipal, county and state
7 government and of the federal government. Such instruction shall begin not later than the opening
8 of the eighth grade and shall continue in high school as an identifiable component of a year's course
9 in the history and government of the United States and New Hampshire.

10 ***II.*** ***As a component of instruction under paragraph I, a locally developed***
11 ***competency assessment of United States government and civics that includes, but is not***
12 ***limited to, the nature, purpose, structure, function, and history of the United States***
13 ***government, the rights and responsibilities of citizens, and noteworthy government and***
14 ***civic leaders, shall be administered to students as part of the high school course in history***
15 ***and government of the United States and New Hampshire. Students who attain a passing***
16 ***grade on the competency assessment shall be eligible for a certificate issued by the school***
17 ***district. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) test may be***
18 ***used to satisfy the requirement of this paragraph.***

19 7:2 Applicability. The provisions of this act shall only apply to students eligible to receive a
20 high school diploma or high school equivalency certificate on or after January 1, 2017.

21 7:3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

22 Approved: March 16, 2016

23 Effective Date: March 16, 2016

