

104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB2080

Introduced 2/6/2025, by Sen. Andrew S. Chesney

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act
30 ILCS 805/8.49 new

Creates the Curriculum Transparency Act. Requires each school that is operated by a school district or as a public charter school to disclose, not more than 10 days after the first use, on a publicly accessible portion of the school website or the school district website: (1) the procedures or processes in effect for the school principal or other staff to document, review, or approve lesson plans or the learning materials and activities used for student instruction at the school; (2) a listing of the teacher and staff training materials and activities used at the school in the current school year; and (3) a listing of the learning materials and activities used for student instruction at the school in the current school year. Provides that neither the State Board of Education nor the governing board of a public school or public charter school, nor any staff employed thereby and acting in the course of his or her official duties, shall purchase or contract for copyrighted learning materials to be used for student instruction at a school, unless provision is made to allow parents and guardians of enrolled students to review the materials within 10 school days of the submission of a written request to the school. Sets forth ways a party may enforce the Act. Amends the State Mandates Act to require implementation without reimbursement.

LRB104 11341 LNS 21429 b

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Curriculum Transparency Act.

6 Section 5. Online transparency.

7 (a) Each school that is operated by a school district or as
8 a public charter school shall disclose on a publicly
9 accessible portion of the school website or, at the school
10 district's discretion, the school district website, all of the
11 following:

12 (1) The procedures or processes in effect for the
13 school principal or other staff to document, review, or
14 approve lesson plans or the learning materials and
15 activities used for student instruction at the school.

16 (2) A listing of the teacher and staff training
17 materials and activities used at the school in the current
18 school year.

19 (3) A listing of the learning materials and activities
20 used for student instruction at the school in the current
21 school year, including at least the following, organized,
22 at a minimum, by subject area, grade, and teacher:

23 (A) Textbooks, articles, and other required

1 reading materials; videos and audio recordings;
2 digital materials; websites; instructional handouts
3 and worksheets; device-based applications, including,
4 but not limited to, smartphone, laptop, or
5 tablet-based applications; materials and topics
6 presented at grade-level or schoolwide assemblies;
7 guest lectures; action-oriented civics learning
8 assignments or projects; and service-learning
9 projects.

10 (B) The title, author, or organization, and if
11 accessed online, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL)
12 associated with the material or activity.

13 (b) Each school shall list the required materials and
14 activities online not more than 10 school days after the first
15 use of each material or activity. The list shall be accessible
16 via the school website for at least 2 years and electronically
17 searchable or sortable by grade, course or subject title, and
18 teacher name. The listing of materials and activities pursuant
19 to subsection (a) shall be created and displayed in searchable
20 or sortable electronic formats. The school or district may use
21 collaborative cloud-based document or spreadsheet software or
22 an online learning management system that allows multiple
23 authorized users to update or add to posted content on an
24 ongoing basis, as long as the information is publicly
25 accessible via a visible link posted in a conspicuous manner
26 on the school website.

1 (c) This Section does not require:

2 (1) The digital reproduction of the learning materials
3 or activities.

4 (2) The posting or distribution of any material or
5 activity in a manner that would constitute an infringement
6 of copyright under the copyright act (P.L. 94-553; 90
7 Stat. 2541 to 2598; 17 U.S.C. Sections 101 to 1332).

8 (3) The listing of materials and activities used (i)
9 at a school site with fewer than 30 enrolled students or
10 (ii) solely for individualized special education
11 instruction as part of an individualized education
12 program, as defined in 20 U.S.C. Sections 1401 and 1412,
13 or materials and activities used solely for students with
14 a disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act
15 of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794).

16 (d) For purposes of this Section:

17 "Action-oriented civics learning assignments or projects"
18 includes assignments or projects that require students to
19 contact elected officials or advocate for a political or
20 social cause or to participate in political or social
21 demonstrations.

22 "Guest lecture" includes a presentation or educational
23 event conducted by an outside individual or organization,
24 including those facilitated by the school's staff. "Guest
25 lecture" does not include student presentations given by
26 students enrolled at the school.

1 "Lesson plan" means the daily, weekly, or other routinely
2 produced guide, description, or outline of the instruction to
3 be provided by a teacher to students at the school.

4 "Materials or activities used for student instruction"
5 includes, but is not limited to, learning materials or
6 activities from which students are required to choose one or
7 more from a selection of materials that is restricted to
8 specific titles, such as titles of books in a teacher's
9 classroom library.

10 "Service-learning projects" includes both of the
11 following:

12 (1) any requirement to participate in internships or
13 other forms of collaboration with outside organizations
14 after regular school hours for course credit or as a class
15 project or assignment; and

16 (2) the specific internships or organizations selected
17 by students if the selection is made from a list of
18 specific internships or organizations provided by the
19 school or its staff.

20 "Used for student instruction" means assigned,
21 distributed, or otherwise presented to students in any course
22 for which students receive academic credit or in any
23 educational capacity in which the school requires the student
24 body to participate or in which a majority of students in a
25 given grade level participate.

1 Section 10. Parental access.

2 (a) Neither the State Board of Education nor the governing
3 board of a public school or public charter school, nor any
4 staff employed thereby and acting in the course of his or her
5 official duties, shall purchase or contract for copyrighted
6 learning materials to be used for student instruction at a
7 school, including the renewal of subscription-based materials
8 for which students are provided individual login credentials
9 or access via electronic personal devices, unless provision is
10 made to allow parents and guardians of enrolled students to
11 review the materials within 10 school days of the submission
12 of a written request to the school. The means of provision
13 shall include at least one the following:

14 (1) Providing access to the materials at the school
15 site during the school's normal hours of operation within
16 10 school days of written request.

17 (2) Providing temporary remote access or login
18 credentials to at least one copy of the material for
19 review for at least a 24-hour period following each
20 request, not to exceed one request per piece of material
21 per household during each 30-day period.

22 (b) The parent or guardian reviewing copyrighted digital
23 materials shall not be required as a condition of reviewing
24 the materials to enter into terms of a nondisclosure agreement
25 nor waive any rights beyond complying with federal copyright
26 law. As used in this subsection, "nondisclosure agreement"

1 means a confidentiality agreement or contract provision that
2 prohibits the disclosure of information by a party to the
3 contract.

4 Section 15. Enforcement. A party may not initiate legal
5 action to enforce Section 5 or 10 unless the party adheres to
6 the following process:

7 (1) The party, which shall be limited to the State
8 Superintendent of Education, the Attorney General, the
9 State's Attorney for the county in which an alleged
10 violation occurs, or a student or the parent or guardian
11 of a student enrolled in the school district or charter
12 school in which an alleged violation of this Section
13 occurs, shall submit a complaint in writing with the
14 specific facts of the alleged violation to the school
15 district board of education, the charter school governing
16 board, or administrator designated by the board. The party
17 may not submit more than one complaint of an alleged
18 violation in any 30-day period. The complainant may
19 identify multiple materials within a single course or
20 across courses that have not been posted or provided in
21 compliance with Section 5 or 10. The board or
22 administrator shall investigate the complaint and respond
23 in writing, including a description of any action taken to
24 resolve the complaint, within 15 calendar days after
25 receiving the written complaint.

1 (2) If the action taken by the school district board
2 of education, charter school governing board, or
3 designated administrator does not resolve the complaint in
4 a manner that ensures compliance with this Act, the State
5 Superintendent of Education, the Attorney General, the
6 State's Attorney for the county in which an alleged
7 violation occurs, or a student or the parent or guardian
8 of a student enrolled in the school district or charter
9 school in which an alleged violation of this Act occurs,
10 may initiate a suit in the district court in the county in
11 which the alleged violation occurs to bring action for
12 injunctive relief or a writ of mandamus to compel the
13 school district board of education or charter school
14 governing board to comply with this Act. If a student or
15 parent or guardian of a student prevails, the court shall
16 award reasonable attorney's fees to the prevailing party.

17 (3) If the employment of an individual at the school
18 has been discontinued or an Internet address that
19 functioned at the time of the initial posting subsequently
20 ceases to function, the board may not be held liable for
21 not posting or updating the listing of materials required
22 in Section 5 beyond what has previously been posted.

23 (4) An attorney acting on behalf of a school district
24 or charter school may request a legal opinion of the
25 Attorney General or the State's Attorney for the county in
26 which an alleged violation of Section 5 or 10 occurs as to

1 whether the actions taken by the school district or
2 charter school comply.

3 Section 90. The State Mandates Act is amended by adding
4 Section 8.49 as follows:

5 (30 ILCS 805/8.49 new)

6 Sec. 8.49. Exempt mandate. Notwithstanding Sections 6 and
7 8 of this Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for
8 the implementation of any mandate created by this amendatory
9 Act of the 104th General Assembly.