



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB5350

Introduced 1/31/2022, by Rep. Ryan Spain

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/10-31 new
105 ILCS 5/34-18.77 new

Amends the School Code. Requires a school board to adopt a policy to (i) allow the parent or legal guardian of a child to notify the school principal or a designee in writing that the parent or legal guardian objects to the use of specific course material and (ii) allow the child to use alternative course material. Requires the alternative course material to be provided at the expense of the parent or legal guardian. Requires the content of the alternative course material to be sufficiently equivalent to the specific course material to enable the child to meet State standards in a particular subject area. Effective July 1, 2022.

LRB102 21825 CMG 30945 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES
ACT MAY REQUIRE
REIMBURSEMENT

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 5. The School Code is amended by adding Sections
5 10-31 and 34-18.77 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-31 new)

7 Sec. 10-31. Parental objection to specific course
8 material.

9 (a) In this Section, "specific course material" includes,
10 but is not limited to, a book or books, workbooks,
11 supplementary materials, computer software, magnetic media,
12 DVDs, CD-ROMs, computer courseware, online services, an
13 electronic medium, or other means of conveying information to
14 a student or otherwise contributing to the learning process
15 through electronic means.

16 (b) Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, each school
17 board shall adopt a policy allowing the parent or legal
18 guardian of a child to request that the child be excluded from
19 using specific course material based on the parent's or legal
20 guardian's finding that the specific course material is
21 objectionable. The policy shall include provisions that
22 require:

23 (1) the parent or legal guardian to notify the school

1 principal or a designee in writing of the specific course
2 material to which the parent or legal guardian objects;
3 and

4 (2) the use of alternative course material that is
5 agreed upon by both the school district and the parent or
6 legal guardian.

7 (c) The alternative course material under paragraph (2) of
8 subsection (b) shall be provided for use by the child at the
9 parent's or legal guardian's expense. The content of the
10 alternative course material must be sufficiently equivalent to
11 the specific course material found objectionable by the parent
12 or legal guardian to enable the child to meet State standards
13 for education in the particular subject area covered by the
14 specific course material.

15 (d) The name of the parent or legal guardian and any of the
16 specific reasons for the parent's or legal guardian's
17 objection to the specific course material under this Section
18 must remain confidential and may not be publicly disclosed.

19 (105 ILCS 5/34-18.77 new)

20 Sec. 34-18.77. Parental objection to specific course
21 material.

22 (a) In this Section, "specific course material" includes,
23 but is not limited to, a book or books, workbooks,
24 supplementary materials, computer software, magnetic media,
25 DVDs, CD-ROMs, computer courseware, online services, an

1 electronic medium, or other means of conveying information to
2 a student or otherwise contributing to the learning process
3 through electronic means.

4 (b) Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, the board
5 shall adopt a policy allowing the parent or legal guardian of a
6 child to request that the child be excluded from using
7 specific course material based on the parent's or legal
8 guardian's finding that the specific course material is
9 objectionable. The policy shall include provisions that
10 require:

11 (1) the parent or legal guardian to notify the school
12 principal or a designee in writing of the specific course
13 material to which the parent or legal guardian objects;
14 and

15 (2) the use of alternative course material that is
16 agreed upon by both the school district and the parent or
17 legal guardian.

18 (c) The alternative course material under paragraph (2) of
19 subsection (b) shall be provided for use by the child at the
20 parent's or legal guardian's expense. The content of the
21 alternative course material must be sufficiently equivalent to
22 the specific course material found objectionable by the parent
23 or legal guardian to enable the child to meet State standards
24 for education in the particular subject area covered by the
25 specific course material.

26 (d) The name of the parent or legal guardian and any of the

1 specific reasons for the parent's or legal guardian's
2 objection to the specific course material under this Section
3 must remain confidential and may not be publicly disclosed.

4 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
5 2022.