

HOUSE BILL NO. 508

INTRODUCED BY K. KORTUM, L. REKSTEN

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LEGISLATIVE GOAL FOR PUBLIC
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO SUPPORT INSTRUCTION IN MEDIA LITERACY;
PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; AND AMENDING SECTION 20-1-102, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 20-1-102, MCA, is amended to read:

"20-1-102. Legislative goals for public elementary and secondary schools. (1) It is the goal of the
legislature that Montana's public elementary and secondary school system, in cooperation with parents or
guardians, create a learning environment for each student that:

(1)(a) develops a sound foundation for literacy and numeracy during the early years that is built ~~upon~~
on and reinforced throughout the educational experience;

(2)(b) furthers the ability to reason critically, creatively, and strategically;

(3)(c) fosters the ability to effectively understand and communicate ideas, knowledge, and thoughts;

(4)(d) develops a sense of personal and civic responsibility;

(5)(e) provides an in-depth understanding of the American political, social, and economic systems
and the historical context from which they arose;

(6)(f) provides familiarization with political, social, and economic systems found elsewhere in the
world;

(7)(g) strengthens media literacy, including:

(a)(i) developing the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, create, and act using all forms of
communication; and

(b)(ii) reducing susceptibility to disinformation, misinformation, propaganda, and indoctrination.

(7)(8)(h) develops a strong work ethic, postsecondary readiness, and employment skills;

(8)(9)(i) encourages a healthy lifestyle; and

Amendment - 1st Reading-white - Requested by: Kelly Kortum - (H) Education

- 2025

69th Legislature 2025

Drafter: Pad McCracken,

HB0508.001.001

1 ~~(9)(19)(i)~~ supports instruction of financial literacy, where students obtain the knowledge and
2 skills required to succeed financially.

3 (2) For the purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

4 (a) "Disinformation" means false information that is intended to mislead.

5 (b) "Indoctrination" means the process of teaching a person or group to accept a set of
6 beliefs uncritically.

7 (c) "Misinformation" means false information.

8 (d) "Propaganda" means information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote
9 or publicize a particular political cause or point of view."

10 - END -