

Date of Hearing: May 6, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

AB 1792 (Michelle Rodriguez) – As Introduced February 10, 2026

Policy Committee: Education

Vote: 6 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: No

Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC), upon the next revision of the Health Framework for California Public Schools (health framework), to consider including, and recommending for adoption by the State Board of Education (SBE), specific sexual health instruction to educate students about dating abuse and digital violence.

FISCAL EFFECT:

No new state costs.

COMMENTS:

1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

As technology evolves, so must our responsibility to protect young people. Today's student face digital threats that did not even exist a decade ago, including deepfakes, sextortion, nonconsensual intimate imagery, and AI generated exploitation. This legislation ensures that California's Health Education Framework keeps pace with these emerging risks by directing the Instructional Quality Commission to consider incorporating guidance on technology-facilitated abuse into sexual health instruction. Education is one of our most powerful prevention tools. By providing age-appropriate information on digital consent, online safety, and available legal protections, we equip students with the knowledge they need before harm occurs.

2) **Background.** The health framework, adopted by the SBE on May 6, 2019, includes information regarding sexual health, sexual assault and abuse, dating violence, cyberbullying and cyber exploitation, and human trafficking. Further, since 2016, the California Healthy Youth Act requires school districts to ensure that all students receive comprehensive sexual health education, which includes information about human trafficking. Additionally, AB 1861 (Rodriguez), Chapter 807, Statutes of 2018, requires a school district, as part of its comprehensive sexual health education for all seventh to 12th grade pupils, to provide information regarding how social media and mobile device applications are used for human trafficking.

Current law charges the IQC and SBE with developing and adopting state curriculum and instructional materials for use in public schools. The process is iterative and public, involving input from the public, practitioners, and experts in the given curriculum area in question. Notably, the Health Framework curriculum framework adoption in 2019 did not result in a subsequent successful instructional materials adoption, largely due to a lack of interest from publishers. The Budget Act of 2025 appropriated \$1 million for a study to provide recommendations for how to improve and streamline California's curriculum development and adoption process by January 1, 2027.

- 3) **Related Legislation.** AB 1766 (Krell), of the current legislative session, requires the IQC to consider including, and recommending for adoption by the SBE, recommendations for LEAs on covering human trafficking prevention, staying safe from sexually exploitative materials, and skills-based content building protective factors such as healthy boundaries and digital citizenship.

AB 1653 (Lackey), of the current legislative session, requires the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) to consider including, and recommending for adoption by the SBE, specific heat illness related content in the next revision of the California public schools health framework.

AB 86 (Boerner), of the current legislative session, would have required the SBE to adopt kindergarten through grade 8 health education instructional materials, on or before July 1, 2028. The Governor vetoed AB 86 suggesting that such proposals should only be considered after conclusion of the study authorized by the Budget Act of 2025 and encouraged local governing boards to use existing discretion to evaluate and select from materials aligned with state standards.

- 4) **Prior Legislation.** AB 2053 (Mathis), Chapter 695, Statutes of 2024, requires that instruction about adolescent relationship abuse and intimate partner violence include the resources available to students related to adolescent relationship abuse and intimate partner violence.

Analysis Prepared by: Aaron Heredia / APPR. / (916) 319-2081