

1           AN ACT relating to school curriculum.

2           WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds that it is imperative that Kentucky's  
3        children be equipped with information geared toward improving the likelihood of  
4        successful outcomes throughout their lives; and

5           WHEREAS, an analysis of longitudinal survey data from the National Longitudinal  
6        Survey of Youth by Wendy Wang and Brad Wilcox of the American Enterprise Institute  
7        and the Institute for Family Studies showed that 97 percent of the studied individuals that  
8        followed the "Success Sequence" and 86 percent of those "on track" but not having  
9        completed the sequence were not living in poverty by the time they reached young  
10       adulthood, while 53 percent of young adults who did not follow this sequence at all were  
11       living in poverty; and

12          WHEREAS, Wang and Wilcox also found that the odds of reaching middle-income  
13        status were 9.4 times higher for people who followed the "Success Sequence" compared  
14        to those who did not meet any of the milestones, when controlling for race, ethnicity,  
15        gender, and other background factors; and

16          WHEREAS, in their 2013 research paper on the "Five Strong Starts for Social  
17        Mobility," Richard Reeves and Kerry Searle Grannis at the Brookings Institute showed a  
18        strong, positive correlation between the percentage of individuals at different income  
19        levels who achieved the strong starts, which include sequentially achieving a strong  
20        educational foundation, entry into the labor market, lack of criminal conviction, and  
21        getting married before having your first child;

22          NOW, THEREFORE,

23          *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

24          →SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 158 IS CREATED TO  
25        READ AS FOLLOWS:

26          (1) As used in this section, "Success Sequence" means the following series of  
27          evidence-based sequential milestones shown to help young adults achieve

1                   economic prosperity:

2                   (a) Obtaining at least a high school diploma and acquiring additional training  
3                   in preparation for entering the workforce;

4                   (b) Securing full-time employment; and

5                   (c) Waiting until marriage to begin having children.

6                   (2) Beginning with the 2027-2028 school year and each year thereafter, all school  
7                   districts shall provide:

8                   (a) Instruction in the Success Sequence to all students in grade seven (7) and  
9                   grade ten (10); and

10                   (b) Access to instruction in the Success Sequence for students who may not  
11                   have received such instruction during grade ten (10) due to enrollment  
12                   within the school after grade ten (10) or otherwise.

13                   (3) The superintendent of each school district containing students in grade seven (7)  
14                   or grade ten (10) shall determine curricula for course offerings, programs, or a  
15                   combination of course offerings and programs that are aligned with the Success  
16                   Sequence academic standards promulgated by the board.

17                   (4) The department shall develop guidelines that provide direction to local schools in  
18                   implementing curriculum aligned with the Success Sequence academic  
19                   standards. The guidelines shall:

20                   (a) Include grade-level appropriate instruction describing the positive personal  
21                   and societal outcomes associated with the Success Sequence; and

22                   (b) Incorporate evidence drawn from seminal academic studies on the Success  
23                   Sequence, including but not limited to:

24                   1. Assessing the Benefits of the Success Sequence for Economic Self-  
25                   Sufficiency and Family Stability by Hande Inanc, Ariella Spitzer, and  
26                   Brian Goesling for the United States Department of Health and  
27                   Human Services;

1           2. *Creating an Opportunity Society by Ron Haskins and Isabel Sawhill*  
2           *of The Brookings Institution; and*  
3           3. *The Millennial Success Sequence by Wendy Wang and Brad Wilcox*  
4           *of the American Enterprise Institute and the Institute for Family*  
5           *Studies.*

6           *(5) The department or a superintendent may partner with Kentucky-based nonprofit*  
7           *organizations with an established track record of providing instruction on the*  
8           *Success Sequence in the development of the curriculum required by this section.*

9           *(6) The board shall promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS*  
10           *Chapter 13A and KRS 156.160 to establish academic standards for courses and*  
11           *programs in the Success Sequence.*