

**Citizenship Education Amendments**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Kathleen A. Riebe**

House Sponsor:

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill ~~§~~→ **[requires]** allows ~~←§~~ schools to provide legal awareness information to 10th grade students.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ~~§~~→ **[requires]** allows a [schools] school ~~←§~~ to provide legal awareness information to 10th grade students;
- allows flexibility in how schools deliver the information; and
- ~~§~~→ **if provided,** ~~←§~~ requires a local education agency to maintain a current and accurate list of information.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

ENACTS:

**53E-4-208**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **53E-4-208** is enacted to read:

**53E-4-208 . Legal awareness education for students.**

(1) As used in this section, "legal awareness information" means information regarding legal rights, responsibilities, and obligations that apply to individuals upon reaching the age of majority.

(2) Beginning with the 2026-27 school year, an LEA ~~§~~→ **[shall] may** ~~←§~~ ~~§~~→ **[ensure that] provide** ~~←§~~ each student in grade

10 ~~§~~→ **[receives]** ~~←§~~ legal awareness information that includes:

- 27 (a) voting rights and voter registration requirements;  
 28 (b) jury duty obligations and processes;  
 29 (c) military selective service registration requirements;  
 30 (d) the right to enter into contracts and legal consequences of contracts;  
 31 (e) the right to legal representation in court proceedings;  
 32 (f) medical decision-making authority and healthcare consent;  
 33 (g) credit and debt obligations, including student loans;  
 34 (h) tax filing requirements and obligations;  
 35 (i) employment rights and workplace protections under federal and state law;  
 36 (j) the adult criminal justice system and potential consequences of criminal violations,  
 37 including criminal laws that will and do apply once entering certain age ranges;  
 38 (k) civil liability and personal responsibility for actions;  
 39 (l) individual rights during interactions with law enforcement;  
 40 (m) educational privacy rights under federal law;  
 41 (n) the right to access personal academic records; and  
 42 (o) employment discrimination protections.
- 43 (3) An LEA may provide the legal awareness information required under Subsection (2)  
 44 through:
- 45 (a) incorporation into existing coursework;  
 46 (b) dedicated presentations or assemblies;  
 47 (c) written materials or digital resources; or  
 48 (d) any combination of methods described in Subsections (3)(a) through (c), as the local  
 49 governing board determines appropriate.
- 50 (4) ~~Œ~~ → [An] If an ~~Œ~~ LEA ~~Œ~~ → [shall ensure] provides ~~Œ~~ the legal awareness  
 50a information described in Subsection (2) ~~Œ~~ → , the LEA ~~Œ~~ shall  
 51 ~~Œ~~ → [be provided] provide the information ~~Œ~~ in a manner that is age-appropriate  
 51a and accessible to all students.
- 52 (5) An LEA ~~Œ~~ → [shall] ~~Œ~~ :
- 53 (a) ~~Œ~~ → may ~~Œ~~ develop or adopt materials to fulfill the requirements of this section; and  
 54 (b) ~~Œ~~ → if the LEA develops or adopts the materials under Subsection (5)(a), the LEA  
 54a shall ~~Œ~~ ensure that the information provided under this section is current and  
 54b accurate.
- 55 (6) This section does not:  
 56 (a) require the creation of a new course or curriculum;

- 57 (b) require student assessment or testing on the legal awareness information described in
- 58 Subsection (2);
- 59 (c) prevent an LEA from providing additional legal awareness information;
- 60 (d) require a specific method of delivery; or
- 61 (e) create a private right of action.

62 Section 2. **Effective Date.**

63 This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.