

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 868

Introduced by Krist, 10.

Read first time January 11, 2016

Committee: Education

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to education; to state intent; and to provide
- 2 for successful completion of a civics test as a prerequisite to high
- 3 school graduation as prescribed.
- 4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. It is the intent of the Legislature that the civics
2 portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Bureau of
3 Citizenship and Immigration Services be available to every student in a
4 Nebraska high school in order that the students demonstrate a knowledge
5 and understanding of the fundamentals of United States history and the
6 principles of United States government.

7 Sec. 2. (1) For purposes of this section, civics test means the one
8 hundred questions listed on a test that is identical to the civics
9 portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Bureau of
10 Citizenship and Immigration Services, as required by 8 U.S.C. 1423, as
11 such section existed on January 1, 2016.

12 (2) Beginning in school year 2017, as provided in subsection (3) of
13 this section, each high school student shall correctly answer at least
14 seventy percent of the questions on the civics test as a prerequisite to
15 graduation.

16 (3) Each school district may determine the method and manner in
17 which to administer the civics test to each student. A student may take
18 the test, in whole or in part, at any time after enrolling in grade nine
19 and may repeat the test, or any portion thereof, as often as necessary to
20 achieve the score required under subsection (2) of this section. A
21 student may be exempted from the requirement of this section by the
22 provisions of the student's individualized education plan.

23 (4) A school district may not impose or collect any fees or charges
24 in connection with this section.

25 (5) This section is applicable to any student who graduates from
26 high school during or after the 2017-18 school year.