

1 SENATE BILL NO. 242

2 INTRODUCED BY S. MALEK

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ENCOURAGING CIVICS EDUCATION; ENCOURAGING HIGH
5 SCHOOLS TO ADMINISTER A UNITED STATES CIVICS TEST TO STUDENTS; ENCOURAGING THE
6 SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF AN ONLINE CIVICS
7 TEST TO ALL HIGH SCHOOLS; ENCOURAGING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TO
8 ACKNOWLEDGE HIGH SCHOOLS WHOSE STUDENTS ALL PASS THE CIVICS TEST; AND PROVIDING AN
9 EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY DATE."

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

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13 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Administration of United States civics test.** (1) Each public high school
14 in the state is encouraged to administer to each student, except as provided in subsection (3), at least once
15 during a student's high school career, a United States civics test administered by the United States citizenship
16 and immigration services to persons seeking to be naturalized citizens.

17 (2) The office of public instruction is encouraged to provide multiple versions of 50 randomly selected
18 questions from the civics test under subsection (1) in an online format for use by high school and K-12
19 districts. The online test must provide for the confidentiality of students taking the test. Each public high
20 school may administer multiple versions of the test for use in different schools and at different times.

21 (3) A public high school may provide each student with the opportunity to take the test as many times
22 as necessary for the student to pass the test. A student who has an individualized education program under which
23 the civics test is determined to be an inappropriate requirement for the student may not be required to take the
24 civics test.

25 (4) A student passes the civics test if the student correctly answers at least 70% of the questions.

26 (5) The superintendent of public instruction is encouraged to annually publish a list of high schools in
27 the state whose seniors receiving a regular diploma, except for those exempted from taking the test under
28 subsection (3), all pass the United States civics test under subsection (1) and recognize these schools as United
29 States civics all-star schools for that school year.

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