

1 **FOCUS ON CORE CURRICULUM**

2 2000 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Sponsor: L. Steven Poulton**

5 AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; PROVIDING FOR THE DEFINING AND
6 ESTABLISHMENT OF A CORE CURRICULUM TO INCLUDE AN IDENTIFICATION OF
7 THE BASIC KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND COMPETENCIES STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED
8 TO ACQUIRE OR MASTER; REQUIRING LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS TO DESIGN THEIR
9 SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS TO FOCUS ON AND ENHANCE THE CORE
10 CURRICULUM; AND PROVIDING FOR AN ANNUAL REPORT.

11 This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

12 ENACTS:

13 **53A-1-402.5**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

15 Section 1. Section **53A-1-402.5** is enacted to read:

16 **53A-1-402.5. Focus on core curriculum.**

17 (1) In establishing minimum standards related to curriculum and instruction requirements
18 under Subsection 53A-1-402(1)(c), the State Board of Education shall, in consultation with local
19 school boards and local school superintendents, define and establish a core curriculum.

20 (2) The board shall include in its definition an identification of the basic knowledge, skills,
21 and competencies each student is expected to acquire or master as the student advances through
22 the public education system.

23 (3) (a) Local school boards shall design their school activities and programs to focus on
24 the core curriculum with the expectation that each program or activity will enhance or help achieve
25 mastery of the core curriculum.

26 (b) As part of the report required by each school for its participation in the School LAND
27 Trust Program under Section 53A-16-101.5, the school committee shall report on the value of each

28 program and activity at the school as it relates to enhancing the core curriculum, together with
29 recommendations for discontinuing or modifying any activities or programs at the school that do
30 not enhance or help achieve mastery of the core curriculum and improve educational excellence.

Legislative Review Note

as of 1-13-00 10:46 AM

A limited legal review of this legislation raises no obvious constitutional or statutory concerns.

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel