

1 **PUBLIC EDUCATION - INSTRUCTION AND**
2 **POLICY RELATING TO THE ORIGINS OF**
3 **LIFE**

4 2006 GENERAL SESSION

5 STATE OF UTAH

6 **Chief Sponsor: D. Chris Buttars**

7 House Sponsor: James A. Ferrin

8
9 **LONG TITLE**

10 **General Description:**

11 This bill amends the chapter relating to Curriculum in the Public Schools to require the
12 State Board of Education to establish certain curriculum requirements and policies
13 relating to instruction on theories of the origins of life.

14 **Highlighted Provisions:**

15 This bill:

- 16 ▶ states the intent of the Legislature relating to this bill;
- 17 ▶ requires the State Board of Education to establish curriculum requirements and
18 policies that:
- 19 • stress that not all scientists agree on which theory regarding the origins of life,
20 or the origins or present state of the human race, is correct; and
 - 21 • do not endorse a particular theory regarding the origins of life or the origins or
22 present state of the human race; and
- 23 ▶ grants rulemaking authority to the State Board of Education.

24 **Monies Appropriated in this Bill:**

25 None

26 **Other Special Clauses:**

27 None



28 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

29 ENACTS:

30 **53A-13-101.7**, Utah Code Annotated 195331

32 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*33 Section 1. Section **53A-13-101.7** is enacted to read:34 **53A-13-101.7. Curriculum and policy on theories relating to the origins of life.**35 (1) In order to encourage students to critically analyze theories regarding the origins of
36 life or the origins or present state of the human race, consider opposing ~~§~~→ **scientific** ←~~§~~
36a viewpoints, and form37 their own opinions, the Legislature desires to avoid the perception that all scientists agree on
38 any one theory, or that the state endorses one theory over another.39 (2) The State Board of Education shall establish curriculum requirements, consistent
40 with Subsection (1), relating to instruction of students on theories regarding the origins of life
41 or the origins or present state of the human race.42 (3) The curriculum requirements described in Subsection (2) shall require that ~~§~~→ **if** ←~~§~~
43 instruction ~~§~~→ **is given** ←~~§~~ to students on any theory regarding the origins of life, or the origins or
43a present state44 of the human race, ~~§~~→ **then that instruction** ←~~§~~ shall stress that not all scientists agree on which
44a theory is correct.45 (4) The State Board of Education shall:46 (a) make rules, pursuant to Title 63, Chapter 46a, Utah Administrative Rulemaking
47 Act, to fulfill the requirements of this section; and48 (b) ensure that all policies and positions of the State Board of Education relating to
49 theories regarding the origins of life or the origins or present state of the human race:50 (i) do not endorse a particular theory; and51 (ii) stress that not all scientists agree on which ~~§~~→ **scientific** ←~~§~~ theory is correct.

Legislative Review Note
as of 12-1-05 8:53 AM

Based on a limited legal review, this legislation has not been determined to have a high probability of being held unconstitutional.

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

Senate 3rd Reading Amendments 1-23-2006 rd/trv

- 2 - Senate 2nd Reading Amendments 1-20-2006 rd/trv

Fiscal Note
Bill Number SB0096

Public Education - Instruction and Policy Relating to the Origins of Life

14-Jan-06

8:02 PM

State Impact

Any costs associated with the enactment of this bill can be handled within existing budgets.

Individual and Business Impact

None

Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst