

**Representative James A. Ferrin** proposes the following substitute bill:

1                                   **PUBLIC EDUCATION - INSTRUCTION AND**

2   **POLICY RELATING TO THE**

3   **ORIGINS OF LIFE**

4   2006 GENERAL SESSION

5   STATE OF UTAH

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

7   House Sponsor: James A. Ferrin

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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 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 no scientific theory, hypothesis, or instruction regarding the origins of  
20           life or the origins of species has been indisputably proven; and

21                   • do not endorse a particular theory or hypothesis regarding the origins of life or  
22           the origins of species; 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 1953



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

32 Section 1. Section **53A-13-101.7** is enacted to read:

33 **53A-13-101.7. Curriculum and policy on instruction relating to the origins of life.**

34 (1) In order to encourage students to critically analyze scientific instruction regarding  
35 the origins of life and the origins of species, to consider differing scientific viewpoints, and to  
36 form their own opinions, the Legislature desires to avoid the perception that any scientific  
37 theory, hypothesis, or instruction regarding the origins of life, or the origins of species has been  
38 indisputably proven, or that the state endorses any one theory or hypothesis.

39 (2) The State Board of Education shall establish curriculum requirements, consistent  
40 with Subsection (1), relating to scientific instruction of students on the origins of life and the  
41 origins of species.

42 (3) The curriculum requirements described in Subsection (2) shall require that if  
43 scientific instruction is given to students regarding the origins of life, or the origins of species,  
44 then that instruction shall stress that no scientific theory, hypothesis, or instruction regarding  
45 the origins of life or the origins of species has been indisputably proven.

46 (4) The State Board of Education shall:

47 (a) make rules, pursuant to Title 63, Chapter 46a, Utah Administrative Rulemaking  
48 Act, to fulfill the requirements of this section; and

49 (b) ensure that all policies and positions of the State Board of Education relating to  
50 scientific instruction regarding the origins of life or the origins of species:

51 (i) do not endorse any particular theory or hypothesis; and

52 (ii) stress that no scientific theory, hypothesis, or instruction regarding the origins of  
53 life or the origins of species has been indisputably proven.

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**Fiscal Note****Public Education - Instruction and Policy Relating to the Origins of Life***13-Feb-06***Bill Number SB0096S02***4:16 PM*

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**State Impact**

Any cost associated with the implementation of this bill can be handled within existing budgets.

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**Individual and Business Impact**

None

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**Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst**