

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

1                                   **PUBLIC EDUCATION - INSTRUCTION AND**  
2                                   **POLICY RELATING TO THE**  
3                                   **ORIGINS OF SPECIES**  
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 species.

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 a scientific theory, hypothesis, or inference regarding the origins of  
20   species is not an empirically proven fact; and

21           • do not endorse as fact any one theory, hypothesis, or inference regarding the  
22   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**  
34 **species.**

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

40 (2) The State Board of Education shall establish curriculum requirements, consistent  
41 with Subsection (1), relating to scientific instruction of students on the 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 species, then that instruction  
44 shall stress that a scientific theory, hypothesis, or inference regarding the origins of species is  
45 not an empirically proven fact.

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 species:

51 (i) do not endorse as fact any particular theory, hypothesis, or inference; and

52 (ii) stress that a scientific theory, hypothesis, or inference regarding the origins of  
53 species is not an empirically proven fact.

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**Fiscal Note****Public Education - Instruction and Policy Relating to the Origins of Species***24-Feb-06***Bill Number SB0096S03***8:44 AM*

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**State Impact**

Any costs associated with 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**