



Youth And Government

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Committee Assignment: Senate Freedom 2

Bill #:SF-14

1 **Sponsors:** Kimberly Kelly and DeAngela Brackman

2

3 **AN ACT TO:** Amend 8 CRR-NY 100.5 in order to implement an educational program  
4 dedicated to teaching high school students how to manage the necessary life skills  
5 that come with adulthood.

6

7 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

8

9 **Purpose:** To require New York State districts to provide a "Life Skills of Adulthood"  
10 or LSA course in order to prepare students for life after high school.

11

12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 **Section 1: Definitions**

14 a. **Financial Literacy:** the set of skills and knowledge that allows an individual to  
15 make informed and effective decisions with all of their financial resources

16 b. **Taxes:** a sum of money demanded by a government for its support or for  
17 specific facilities or services, levied upon incomes, property, sales, etc.

18 c. **Student Teaching:** a college-supervised instructional experience leading to  
19 teacher education and certification.

20 d. **Purchased Services:** any service contracted for and performed by a third  
21 party

22 e. **HSFPP:** high school financial planning program teaching teens personal  
23 finance skills

24 f. **Elective:** an optional course of study

25 g. **Grant:** a sum of money given by a government or other organization for a  
26 particular purpose such as education

27 h. **Allocate:** distribute (resources or duties) for a particular purpose

28 i. **Curriculum:** the subjects comprising a course of study in a school or college

29 **Section 2:**

30 Students first entering grade nine in the 2008-2009 school year and thereafter shall  
31 have earned at least 22 units of credit including two credits in physical education  
32 and an elective credit after the completion of an LSA course to receive a Regents  
33 diploma.

34

35 **Justification**

36 **Section 1:**

37 a. A high school located in the state of Kentucky held a half-day conference  
38 dedicated to an "Adulthood" class for their students. According to today.com,  
39 the seminar was a "tremendous success" in that the students gained a  
40 substantial understanding of some necessary life skills of adulthood.

41 **Section 2:**



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- 42 a. According to CBS News, 34% of Americans between ages 18 and 34 still lived  
43 with a parent in 2015 compared to only 26% in 2005. These statistics show  
44 that independent living is not as successful without the necessary education  
45 and knowledge to prepare for their future.

46 Section 3:

- 47 a. The LSA program would count as an elective credit, sparking student interest  
48 in the course. The first half of the year, or half of the course, would entail the  
49 High School Financial Planning Program (HSFPP). This section would educate  
50 students on money management and financial skills such as filing taxes,  
51 applying for a credit card, budgeting.
- 52 b. The second half of the course is a mandatory elective. Students will have  
53 their choice of a series of specialized classes including:
- 54 i. Basics of checking and savings, credit card applications, budgeting
  - 55 ii. Writing a resume and cover letter, filling out an application, basics of  
56 an interview
  - 57 iii. Healthy relationships and boundaries
- 58 c. An extended course of the HSFPP, Personal Finance, would also be provided  
59 during the second semester for students who are interested in continuing  
60 their education in financial literacy.

61

62 Fiscal Implications

- 63 a. In an effort to reduce the overall cost of this program, we can train and hire  
64 student teachers. Because they need a student teaching credit to graduate  
65 and become certified teachers, teaching this course would count as this  
66 credit. Payment would not be necessary.
- 67 b. To fund the training for this program, districts across NY state can apply for a  
68 grant providing purchased services. In the event the grant was denied, the  
69 district has the option to allocate for consultant expenses through its general  
70 fund.
- 71 i. In the case that this course will become an NYS requirement, schools  
72 would be given the necessary funds regardless.

73

74 Effective Date

75 The LSA program would be finalized and officially implemented into the NY State  
76 curriculum in September of 2021.

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