

SENATE OF PAKISTAN



REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

ON

THE FEDERAL SUPERVISION OF CURRICULA, TEXT-BOOKS, AND MAINTENANCE OF STANDARDS OF THE EDUCATION (AMENDMENTS) BILL, 2024

PRIVATE MEMBER BILL
INTRODUCED BY
SENATOR QURAT-UL-AIN MARRI

ON 9TH SEPTEMBER, 2024

PRESENTED BY

SENATOR BUSHRA ANJUM BUTT
CHAIRPERSON SSC ON FEDERAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL
TRAINING



SENATE SECRETARIAT

SUBJECT: REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING ON "THE FEDERAL SUPERVISION OF CURRICULA, TEXT-BOOKS, AND MAINTENANCE OF STANDARDS OF THE EDUCATION (AMENDMENTS) BILL, 2024

I, Senator Bushra Anjum Butt, Chairperson Senate Standing Committee on Federal Education and Professional Training, have the honor to present report of the Committee on a Private Member Bill " **THE FEDERAL SUPERVISION OF CURRICULA, TEXT-BOOKS, AND MAINTENANCE OF STANDARDS OF THE EDUCATION (AMENDMENTS) BILL, 2024** introduced by Senator Qurat-Ul-Ain Marri on 9th September, 2024.

2. The composition of the Committee is as under: -

1. Senator Bushra Anjum Butt	Chairperson
2. Senator Ashraf Ali Jatoi	Member
3. Senator Syed Masroor Ahsan	Member
4. Senator Falak Naz	Member
5. Senator Fawzia Arshad	Member
6. Senator Dr. Afnan Ullah Khan	Member
7. Senator Rahat Jamali	Member
8. Senator Kamran Murtaza	Member
9. Senator Khalida Ateeb	Member
10. Senator Naseema Ehsan	Member
11. Senator Gurdeep Singh	Member
12. Senator Qurat-Ul-Ain Marri	Mover
13. Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training	Ex-Officio Member

3. The Committee took up the Bill in its meeting held on 25th July, 2025 which was attended by the following Members:

1. Senator Bushra Anjum Butt	Chairperson
2. Senator Ashraf Ali Jatoi	Member
3. Senator Syed Masroor Ahsan	Member
4. Senator Falak Naz	Member
5. Senator Fawzia Arshad	Member
6. Senator Dr. Afnan Ullah Khan	Member
7. Senator Khalida Ateeb	Member
8. Senator Kamran Murtaza	Member
9. Senator Rahat Jamali	Member
10. Senator Sarmad Ali	Mover
11. State Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training	Ex-Officio Member



4. The meeting of the Standing Committee on Federal Education commenced to consider the Private Member's Bill titled "The Federal Supervision of Curricula, Textbooks, and Maintenance of Standards of Education (Amendment) Bill, 2024." The Chairperson, Senator Bushra Anjum Butt, presided over the proceedings and acknowledged that while certain reservations were expressed regarding specific terminology—particularly in relation to reproductive health education—the majority of the Committee members recognized the critical importance of integrating such subjects into the national curriculum. She emphasized that such inclusion must be implemented in a manner that is developmentally appropriate, culturally sensitive, and subject to appropriate parental oversight and informed consent.

5. The Bill was presented before the Committee for clause-by-clause consideration and was subsequently put to vote. The Bill, along with proposed amendments, was passed by a majority vote—six (6) Members voting in favor and two (2) Members opposing. The following Honourable Senators voted in favor: Dr. Afnan Ullah Khan, Syed Masroor Ahsan, Ashraf Ali Jatoi, Fawzia Arshad, Khalida Ateeb, and Rahat Jamali. Senators Kamran Murtaza and Falak Naz recorded their dissent, expressing concerns related to cultural norms and societal sensitivities. Senator Khalida Ateeb, while supporting the Bill in principle, recommended that the scope of reproductive health education be restricted to the secondary level and not be introduced at the primary level of education. The Committee, by majority consensus, adopted the following amendments to the Bill:

- a) that the provision regarding reproductive health education shall stipulate that such content shall only be introduced into the curriculum for students aged fourteen (14) years and above;
- b) that a clause be incorporated requiring prior written consent from parents or legal guardians before imparting any instruction related to reproductive health education within educational institutions;

6. Thereafter, the Bill 'The Federal Supervision of Curricula, Textbooks, and Maintenance of Standards of Education (Amendment) Bill, 2024', as amended in accordance with the above stipulations, was approved by the Committee. A copy of the Bill as introduced in the Senate is at **Annexure-A**. The Bill as amended by the committee and subsequently passed by majority vote is annexed at **Annexure-B**. The Committee also gave approval of presentation of report of the Committee to the House. Hence, this report is presented to the House.



(GHULAM MUHAMMAD SHAR)
Secretary Committee



(SENATOR BUSHRA ANJUM BUTT)
Chairperson Committee

AS
[~~TO BE~~ INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]

A
BILL

further to amend the Federal Supervision of Curricula, Text-books and Maintenance of Standards of the Education Act, 1976

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Federal Supervision of Curricula, Text-books and Maintenance of Standards of the Education Act, 1976 (X of 1976), in its application to the Islamabad Capital Territory for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows: —

1. Short title, extent and commencement. — (1) This Act shall be called the Federal Supervision of Curricula, Text-books and Maintenance of Standards of the Education (Amendment) Act, 2024.

(2) It extends to the Islamabad Capital Territory.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of section 2, Act X of 1976. — In the Federal Supervision of Curricula, Text-books and Maintenance of Standards of the Education Act, 1976 (X of 1976), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in section 2, —

(i) in clause (a), the word "and", occurring at the end, shall be omitted; and

(ii) in clause (b), for the full stop ".", occurring at the end, a semi-colon and word "; and" shall be substituted and after clause (b), amended as aforesaid, the following new clause shall be inserted, namely: —

"(c) "reproductive health education" means the education regarding reproductive health and knowledge of the complete physical, mental and social well-being in all matters relating to the reproductive system."

3. Amendment of section 3, Act X of 1976. - In the said Act, in section 3, in sub-section (2), in paragraph (b), for the expression ";and" occurring at the end, a colon ":" shall be substituted and thereafter the following proviso shall be inserted, namely: -

"Provided that the Competent Authority shall ensure the inclusion of the accurate age appropriate reproductive health education, while approving the manuscript of text books for middle and high school students; and"

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

A Comprehensive reproductive health education - or the many other ways this may be referred to is a curriculum-based process of teaching and learning about the cognitive, emotional, physical and social aspects of reproductive health. It aims to equip the children and young people with knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that empowers them to realize their health, well-being and dignity; develop respectful social relationships; consider how their choices affect their own well-being and that of others; and understand and ensure the protection of their rights throughout their lives.

2. This amendment in the Act aims at, provision of aforesaid objectives to enable the students in the decision-making process regarding several issues concerning reproductive health.

**SENATOR QURAT-UL-AIN MARRI
MEMBER-IN-CHARGE**

AS REPORTED BY THE COMMITTEE

A

Bill

further to amend the Federal Supervision Curricula Textbooks and Maintenance of the Standards of Education Act, 1976

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Federal Supervision of Curricula, Textbooks and Maintenance of Standards of the Education Act, 1976 (X of 1976), in its application to the Islamabad Capital Territory and the institutions under Federal government across the country for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows It is hereby enacted as follows: -

1. Short title extent and commencement

- (1) This Act shall be called the Federal Supervision of Curricula, Textbooks and Maintenance of Standards of the Education (Amendment) Act, 2024.
- (2) The improvement in field of science, computer science, technical education the latest technologies on the emerging trends in education will be the main theme of coordination among the federal government and provincial government
- (3) The improved version of the material will be placed before IPEMC for adoption in the respective provinces.

It shall come into force at once.

In the Federal Supervision of Curricula, Textbooks and Maintenance of Standards of the Education Act 1976 (X of 1976), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in section 2,-

- (i) In clause (a), the word "and", occurring at the end, shall be omitted; and
- (ii) In clause (b), for the full stop ".", occurring at the end, a semi-colon and word ";" and shall be substituted and after clause (b), amended as aforesaid, the following new clause shall be inserted, namely: -
 - "(c) "reproductive health education" means the education regarding reproductive health and knowledge of the complete physical, mental and social well-being in all matters relating to the reproductive system,
 - a. *That the provision regarding reproductive health education shall stipulate that such content shall only be introduced into the curriculum for students aged fourteen (14) years and above.*
 - b. *That requiring prior written consent from parents or legal guardians shall be mandatory before imparting any instructions related to reproductive health education within educational institutions*

Appointment and duties of Competent Authority.

- (1) The Federal Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint one or more Competent Authorities for Carrying out the purposes of this Act.
- (2) The Competent Authority may, for carrying out the purposes of this act:
 - a) Prepare or cause to be prepared schemes of studies, curricula, manuscripts of textbooks and schedules or strategy for their introduction in various classes of an institution in connection with the implementation of the education policy of the Federal Government
 - b) Approve manuscripts of textbooks produced by other agencies before they are prescribed in various classes of an institution; and
 - c) Direct any person or agency in writing to delete, amend or withdraw any portion, or the whole, of the curriculum, textbook or reference material prescribed for any class of an institution within a period specified in such directive.
 - d) *Conduct research studies on implemented curricula for improvement/up-dation with contemporary demands.*
 - e) *Prepare or cause to be prepared Supplementary Reading Material (SRM) in consonance with the spirit of Curricula.*