

[AS PASSED BY 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,

- (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: and
- (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."

3. Amendment of section 3, Act X of 1976. - In the said Act, in section 3, in sub-section (2),-

- (i) 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;"

- (ii) In paragraph (c), for the full stop"." occurring at the end a colon ":" shall be substituted and thereafter the following new paragraphs (d) and (e) shall inserted, namely;-

"(d) Conduct research studies on implemented curricula for improvement or up-dation with contemporary demands; and

(e) Prepare or cause to be prepared Supplementary Reading Material (SRM) in consonance with the spirit of Curricula."

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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