



## 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB1243

Introduced 1/31/2023, by Rep. Jonathan Carroll

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/27-23.17 new

Amends the Course of Study Article of the School Code. Requires each public school to provide a separate course of study on mental health that instructs students on how to recognize the signs of anxiety, depression, and other forms of mental illness. Provides that all students in grades kindergarten through 12 must take the course each school year, beginning with the 2024-2025 school year. Provides that the course length must be at least one semester or its equivalent but that the school board shall determine the minimum amount of instructional time required for the course. Requires the State Board of Education to prepare and make available to school boards resource materials on mental illness that must be used as guidelines for the development of the course.

LRB103 05769 RJT 50789 b

STATE MANDATES  
ACT MAY REQUIRE  
REIMBURSEMENT

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section  
5 27-23.17 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/27-23.17 new)

7 Sec. 27-23.17. Mental health course of study.

8 (a) In addition to the mental health and illness  
9 instruction required under the Critical Health Problems and  
10 Comprehensive Health Education Act, each public school shall  
11 provide a separate course of study on mental health that  
12 instructs students on how to recognize the signs of anxiety,  
13 depression, and other forms of mental illness. All students in  
14 grades kindergarten through 12 must take the course each  
15 school year, beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.

16 (b) The course length under this Section must be at least  
17 one semester or its equivalent; however, the school board  
18 shall determine the minimum amount of instructional time  
19 required for the course.

20 (c) The State Board of Education shall prepare and make  
21 available to school boards resource materials on mental  
22 illness that must be used as guidelines for the development of  
23 a course under this Section.