

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 2-3.196 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.196 new)

7 Sec. 2-3.196. Science in Elementary Schools Working Group.

8 (a) The State Board of Education shall create the Science  
9 in Elementary Schools Working Group. The State Board of  
10 Education shall appoint science and health education  
11 specialists, educators or former educators who teach or have  
12 taught the subject of science or health, medical doctors,  
13 doctors of osteopathy or osteopathic medicine, parents,  
14 registered nurses, chiropractors, exercise physiologists, and  
15 physical therapists to the Working Group.

16 The members of the Working Group shall serve without  
17 compensation.

18 (b) The State Board of Education shall provide  
19 administrative support to the Working Group.

20 (c) By June 1, 2024, the Working Group shall create a  
21 crosswalk and alignment of the current Illinois Learning  
22 Standards, the Next Generation Science Standards adopted by  
23 the State Board of Education and the Illinois Learning

1 Standards for Science, with links to available resources so  
2 elementary teachers have access to high quality,  
3 age-appropriate, and free educational materials that are  
4 centered on anatomy, physiology and nutrition to empower  
5 students with the knowledge of their own bodies and to care for  
6 their own health and well-being throughout their lives.

7 (d) The Working Group shall focus its recommendations on  
8 how to empower students with the knowledge to adequately  
9 understand their own bodies and care for their own health and  
10 well-being throughout their lives, with the idea that science  
11 education is more human-centered. The Working Group shall  
12 additionally focus on connecting this human-centered science  
13 education with other sciences as students advance to other  
14 areas of their science education, such as chemistry, biology,  
15 and physics, taught at later grade levels.

16 (e) The Working Group shall make recommendations to the  
17 State Board of Education on updating its science standards by  
18 December 31, 2025. By December 31, 2030, the State Board of  
19 Education shall review and provide updates as appropriate to  
20 the crosswalk and alignment documents and elementary  
21 storylines. The State Board of Education shall conduct these  
22 reviews and provide these updates, at a minimum, of every 5  
23 years thereafter.

24 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
25 becoming law.