

Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program

53F-5-219 Sunset Recommendations

June, 2024

53F-5-219 Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program

Effective 5/4/2022

53F-5-219. Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program.

(2) There is created a three-year pilot program known as the Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program to promote developmentally-appropriate innovative approaches that are:

- (a) aligned with core standards; and
- (b) based on proven practices, including:
 - (i) promoting responsibility for preserving and defending the blessings of liberty secured by the Constitution of the United States;
 - (ii) building confidence in the foundations of American democracy, including:
 - (A) American civic and political institutions; and
 - (B) foundational constitutional concepts;
 - (iii) developing the skills and character traits essential for informed, productive, and thoughtful engagement in civic life, consistent with Subsection 53G-10-204(3);
 - (iv) after providing sufficient instruction in American civics and history to instill the confidence described in Subsection (2)(b)(ii), and after developing the skills described in Subsection (2)(b)(iii), promoting academic service learning and informed participation in civic life, including the policymaking process at different levels of government; and
 - (v) teaching media literacy and digital citizenship.
- (3) The state board shall:
 - (a) in accordance with this section and subject to legislative appropriations, award a grant to a participating LEA;
 - (v) requirements for a report that a participating LEA is required to submit to the state board at the end of the pilot program.

Background

Section [53F-5-219](#) is scheduled to be repealed. Unless action is taken by the Legislature, the program will be repealed on July 1, 2025.

Background

The Education Interim Committee has three options for making recommendations to the Legislature regarding these statutes.

1. Take no action. This would allow the statute to sunset, meaning the section of code and the pilot program would be repealed effective July 1, 2025.
2. Draft a committee bill to change the sunset date.
3. Draft a committee bill to remove the sunset date.

The Interim Committee would like a recommendation from the Board on whether to allow the repeal of the program, change the sunset date, or remove the sunset date.

Regardless if 53F-5-219 is repealed or not:

- The Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program is a three-year pilot created in the 2022 legislative session.
- Funds have been encumbered and disbursed to 12 LEA's. They are at varying stages in program implementation.
- While the sunsetting of the pilot in code is in alignment with the three-year timeline of the legislation, The USBE could continue the rule until the completion of pilot activities to ensure the continuation of program support and monitoring.

Recommendation

That the Committee recommends that the Legislature allow Utah Code Section [53F-5-219](#), Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program, to sunset and forwards the recommendation to the Board for approval.

Thank you

- Robert Austin, Educational Specialist
- Greg Connell, Policy Analyst