

# SENATE AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Amend SS/SCS/Senate Bill Nos. 411 & 230, Page 30, Section 167.790, Line 72,

2 by inserting after all of said line the following:

3 "170.341. 1. Any school district or public charter  
 4 school may offer students elective social studies courses  
 5 relating, but not limited to, the following:

6 (1) The Hebrew Scriptures, the Old Testament of the  
 7 Bible;

8 (2) The New Testament of the Bible; or

9 (3) The Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament of the  
 10 Bible.

11 2. The purpose of a course under this section is to:

12 (1) Teach students knowledge of biblical content,  
 13 characters, poetry, and narratives that are prerequisites to  
 14 understanding contemporary society and culture, including  
 15 literature, art, music, mores, oratory, and public policy;  
 16 and

17 (2) Familiarize students with, as applicable:

18 (a) The contents of the Hebrew Scriptures or New  
 19 Testament;

20 (b) The history of the Hebrew Scriptures or New  
 21 Testament;

22 (c) The literary style and structure of the Hebrew  
 23 Scriptures or New Testament; and

24 (d) The influence of the Hebrew Scriptures or New  
 25 Testament on law, history, government, literature, art,  
 26 music, customs, morals, values, and culture.

27           3. A student shall not be required to use a specific  
28 translation as the sole text of the Hebrew Scriptures or New  
29 Testament and may use as the basic textbook a different  
30 translation of the Hebrew Scriptures or New Testament from  
31 that chosen by the school district or public charter school.

32           4. A course offered under this section shall follow  
33 applicable law and all federal and state guidelines in  
34 maintaining religious neutrality and accommodating the  
35 diverse religious views, traditions, and perspectives of  
36 students in the school. A course offered under this section  
37 shall not endorse, favor, or promote, or disfavor or show  
38 hostility toward, any particular religion or nonreligious  
39 faith or religious perspective.

40           5. School districts and public charter schools, in  
41 complying with this section, shall not violate any provision  
42 of the Constitution of the United States or federal law, the  
43 Constitution of Missouri or any state law, or any  
44 administrative regulations of the department of elementary  
45 and secondary education or the United States Department of  
46 Education."; and

47           Further amend the title and enacting clause accordingly.