

A Bill for an Act relating to Life Education Classes in the Victorian Curriculum Bill 2020.

To be enacted by the YMCA Victoria Youth Parliament;

## **Life Education Classes in Victorian Curriculum Bill 2020**

A Bill for an Act to add mandatory Life Education Classes to the Victorian Curriculum. These classes shall be available to Year 7-10 students, with resources available to the public. Classes shall cover a wide range of topics, from economics to mental health and practical hands-on skills. In addition, this Bill will set up the Life Education Advisory Board. This Board, containing several representatives from the VCAA, shall oversee the auditing of the curriculum and the administering of penalties for schools which do not follow the new Life Education curriculum.

The bill has been developed to address a lack of practical knowledge and skills amongst the student population of Victoria.

## PART I—Preliminary

### Clause 1 Purpose

The main purposes of this Act are—

- (a) to educate and upskill all Victorian students to be better prepared for everyday life upon leaving high school;
- (b) to establish a new Advisory Board within the VCAA for Life Education classes;
- (c) to add a new subject into the Victorian Curriculum called Life Education.

### Clause 2 Commencement

This Bill shall commence upon receiving assent from the Youth Governor of Victoria.

### Clause 3 Definitions

In this Bill, we define the following to mean—

- (a) **life education** means subjects which could be understood as essential, necessary, or extremely helpful in everyday life;
- (b) **Victorian schooling institutions** means Public, Private, and home schooling that utilizes the Victorian Curriculum;
- (c) **basic first aid** means level two certificate HLTAID003 or equivalent;
- (d) **the Board** means a department of representatives responsible for the implementation and management of the new education curriculum.

## PART II—Establishment

### Clause 4 Creation of a life education advisory board

- 4.1 The Board shall be established and comprised of professionals with financial, legal, educational and youth work backgrounds.
- 4.2 The Board will sit as a subset of the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) and oversee the Life Education Curriculum.
- 4.3 The Board shall audit the curriculum every 4 years to keep content relevant and up to date.
- 4.4 The Board shall be responsible for awarding penalties to education institutions that do not comply with the requirements.

### Clause 5 Program audience

- 5.1 Life Education classes shall be provided to Victorian students studying in Years 7-10 or equivalent.
- 5.2 Life Education classes shall be mandatory for all students regardless of the learning platform.

**Clause 6 Class content structure**

- 6.1 Year 7 students shall be taught the following—
  - (a) mental health;
  - (b) medicine;
  - (c) CPR;
  - (d) basic first aid.
- 6.2 Year 8 students shall be taught the following—
  - (a) budgeting;
  - (b) finance;
  - (c) taxes.
- 6.3 Year 9 students shall be taught the following—
  - (a) care of vehicles;
  - (b) moving out and/or in;
  - (c) superannuation;
  - (d) housing.
- 6.4 Year 10 students shall be taught the following—
  - (a) mental health;
  - (b) professional practices;
  - (c) creating up to date online professional or business profiles.

**Clause 7 Creation of publicly available resources**

- 7.1 Resources and module units shall be made publicly available for the public on an online platform.
- 7.2 Public and state libraries shall also have hardcopies of the resources.

**Clause 8 Learning requirements of life education classes**

- 8.1 The Life Education classes shall contain five hours of content per subject.
- 8.2 It will be at the discretion of Victorian schooling institutions to decide when the five hours OF Life Education Class content will be taught over the course of the school year.