AN ACT concerning school districts; establishing celebrate freedom week and related curriculum.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) In order to educate students about the sacrifices made for freedom in the founding of this country and the values on which this country was founded, the week starting September 15, 2013, and the week of September containing the 17th day of such month in each year thereafter is hereby designated as "celebrate freedom week" in each public school.

(b) The state board of education, in cooperation with such other state agencies or private entities who voluntarily participate, shall promote "celebrate freedom week" through a coordinated program.

(c) For purposes of this section, Sunday is deemed to be the first day of the week.

Sec. 2. On or before December 31, 2014, the state board of education shall adopt rules and regulations requiring appropriate instruction be provided as part of the curriculum on civil government concerning the original intent, meaning and importance of the declaration of independence and the United States constitution, including the bill of rights of the United States constitution, in their historical contexts. The religious references in the writings of the founding fathers shall not be censored when presented as part of such instruction. Such rules and regulations shall provide that the study of the declaration of independence include the study of the relationship of the ideas expressed in that document to subsequent American history, including the relationship of such ideas to the rich diversity of our people as a nation of immigrants, the American revolution, the formulation of the United States constitution and the abolitionist movement, which led to the emancipation proclamation and the women's suffrage movement. Such instruction shall be taught during "celebrate freedom week," established under section 1, and amendments thereto, or during such other full school week as determined by the board of education of the school district.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
1 publication in the statute book.