

[AS INTRODUCED]

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TO

Require the Secretary of State to include water safety and training in prevention of drowning as a compulsory part of the curriculum for all schools in England.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Water safety education

- (1) The Secretary of State must by regulations make provision requiring—
 - (a) water safety education to be provided to pupils of compulsory school age receiving primary education at schools in England;
 - (b) water safety education to be provided to pupils receiving secondary education at schools in England. 5
- (2) The regulations must include provision—
 - (a) requiring the Secretary of State to give guidance to proprietors of schools in relation to the provision of the education and to review the guidance from time to time; 10
 - (b) requiring proprietors of schools to have regard to the guidance;
 - (c) requiring proprietors of schools to make statements of policy in relation to the education to be provided, and to make the statements available to parents or other persons;
 - (d) about the circumstances in which a pupil (or a pupil below a specified age) is to be excused from receiving water safety education or specified elements of that education. 15
- (3) The regulations must provide that guidance given by virtue of subsection (2)(a) is to be given with a view to ensuring that when water safety education is given— 20
 - (a) the pupils learn about how to be safe in and around water and what steps to take to prevent drowning, and
 - (b) the education is appropriate having regard to the age of the pupils.
- (4) The regulations may make further provision in connection with the provision of water safety education. 25

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- (5) Before making the regulations, the Secretary of State must consult such persons as the Secretary of State considers appropriate.
- (6) The regulations may amend any provision (including provision conferring powers) that is made by or under –
- (a) section 342 of the Education Act 1996; 5
 - (b) Chapter 4 of Part 5 of the Education Act 1996;
 - (c) Schedule 1 to the Education Act 1996;
 - (d) Part 6 of the Education Act 2002;
 - (e) Chapter 1 of Part 4 of the Education and Skills Act 2008;
 - (f) the Academies Act 2010. 10
- (7) Any duty to make provision by regulations under subsection (1) may be discharged by making that provision by regulations under another Act, so long as the Secretary of State consults such persons as the Secretary of State considers appropriate before making the regulations under that Act.
- (9) Regulations under this Act are to be made by statutory instrument. 15
- (10) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this Act may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.
- (11) Expressions used in this section, where listed in the left-hand column of the table in section 580 of the Education Act 1996, are to be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of that Act listed in the right-hand column in relation to those expressions. 20

2 Extent, commencement and short title

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales.
- (2) This Act comes into force on the day on which it is passed. 25
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Water Safety (Curriculum) Act 2022.

Water Safety (Curriculum) Bill [HL]

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Lord Storey

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