



How **WeldWAITS** aligns with Youth Wellness Act **HB 19-1032** Comprehensive Human Sexuality Education



History of Comprehensive Human Sexuality Education

HB 19-1032 is very similar to HB-13 1081 which was passed into law in 2013. Since WeldWAITS aligned its programming with HB 13-1081, no changes are needed to be in compliance with HB 19-1032. **This bill does not mandate school districts to provide sexual health education but clarifies content requirements if schools wish to provide sexual health education to their students.**



Important Highlights of HB 19-1032

● Parents can still opt children out of sexual health education

Parents must be informed about what schools will teach and have the choice to opt out entirely or partially. (WeldWAITS encourages parental involvement and staff is open to meet with parents at any time.)

● Sexual health education must be age-appropriate

HB 19-1032 does NOT apply to students in kindergarten through third grade. (Colorado Department of Education standards guide what students should learn at each grade level. However, CDE acknowledges the importance of local data and students' needs to drive the focus at the local level. WeldWAITS programming aligns with the state standards for each grade level, while taking into consideration the specific requests of each school district.)

● Schools can still discuss abstinence

Comprehensive and medically accurate information about methods to prevent unintended pregnancy and STIs must be provided, including abstinence, FDA approved methods of contraception and condoms. (WeldWAITS provides contraception and STI education upon request.)

● Human sexuality education must be comprehensive

HB 19-1032 defines comprehensive human sexuality education as age-appropriate, culturally sensitive, inclusive of a positive youth development framework, and medically accurate. (WeldWAITS provides students with the best health message by enhancing their skills and abilities, not focusing solely on risks and dangers.)

● Instruction must be inclusive

Instruction must not "use shame-based or stigmatizing language or instructional tools; employ gender stereotypes; or exclude the health needs of intersex individuals or LGBT individuals." (WeldWAITS staff and programming creates a safe place for all students regardless of gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, values, beliefs, disabilities, and life experiences. All students are shown dignity and respect.)

● Information about consent must be taught

Schools must discuss information regarding communication of consent, withdrawal of consent, and age of consent. (WeldWAITS offers education about consent, communicating boundaries, refusal skills, and grooming tactics.)

● Discussion of pregnancy prevention is required but discussion of pregnancy outcomes is optional

If school districts choose to discuss what happens after a pregnancy, they must include ALL options such as abortion, adoption, and parenting. Regardless of whether pregnancy outcomes are discussed or not, Colorado's Safe Haven laws must be provided. (As a **prevention program**, WeldWAITS discusses pregnancy prevention, but does NOT discuss pregnancy outcomes.)

WeldWAITS programming is FREE to Weld County schools and the program receives no abstinence-only federal funds.

Weld County Department of Public Health



Melanie Cyphers
(970) 400-2423
mcyphers@weldgov.com

Heidi Musil
(970) 400-2379
hmsuil@weldgov.com



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www.weldwaits.com