



# NARAL

## Pro-Choice Colorado

# Fact Sheet

HB 1292 (Todd, Windels)  
Responsible Sex Education

---

### VOTE YES ON HB 1292

HB 1292 (Todd, Windels), "Responsible Sex Education," would establish standards for local school districts to use when developing sex-education curricula. This bill is an important part of prevention first initiatives to help reduce unintended pregnancy in Colorado and to help create healthy women, children and families. Colorado lacks a common set of standards for instruction on the important topic of human sexuality. Recent surveys also reveal that many students receive incomplete, inaccurate information regarding human sexuality. Colorado students and parents expect health education programs to teach scientifically established facts.

### BILL SUMMARY

- HB 1292 would create standards for local school districts and boards to use when constructing curricula about human sexuality only if the school district, charter school, or institute charter school offers instruction about human sexuality.
- This bill specifies that sexual-education instruction conforms to standards based on scientific research and:
  - Encourages parental involvement and family communication.
  - Allows discussion of moral, ethical and religious values as they pertain to human sexuality.
  - Emphasizes abstinence from high-risk sexual behavior and teaches that abstinence from high-risk sexual behavior is the most effective way to avoid pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.
  - Includes instruction to help students develop skills to make responsible choices about sexuality, including how to avoid unwanted sexual advances and how to avoid making unwanted sexual advances.
  - Includes discussion of how alcohol and drug use impairs responsible decision making.
  - Is age-appropriate, culturally sensitive and medically accurate.
  - Provides instruction about the health benefits and potential side effects of using contraceptives, including information about emergency contraception.
  - Establishes a procedure to allow a student, upon request of the parent or guardian, to opt out of a specific portion of a health-education program on the grounds that it is contrary to the religious beliefs of the student or the student's parent or guardian.
- HB 1292 would encourage involvement of parents and community members in developing sex education content.

### SUPPORT COMPREHENSIVE, MEDICALLY ACCURATE SEX EDUCATION

### VOTE YES ON HB 1292!