



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

**Raised Bill No. 5713**

LCO No. 1667

\*01667\_\_\_\_\_LAB\*

Referred to Committee on LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Introduced by:  
(LAB)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF LABOR HISTORY IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-16b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

3 (a) In the public schools the program of instruction offered shall  
4 include at least the following subject matter, as taught by legally  
5 qualified teachers, the arts; career education; consumer education;  
6 health and safety, including, but not limited to, human growth and  
7 development, nutrition, first aid, disease prevention, community and  
8 consumer health, physical, mental and emotional health, including  
9 youth suicide prevention, substance abuse prevention, safety, which  
10 may include the dangers of gang membership, and accident  
11 prevention; language arts, including reading, writing, grammar,  
12 speaking and spelling; mathematics; physical education; science; social  
13 studies, including, but not limited to, citizenship, economics,  
14 geography, government and history; labor history and law, including

15 the history of organized labor, the collective bargaining process and  
16 existing legal protections in the workplace; and in addition, on at least  
17 the secondary level, one or more world languages and vocational  
18 education. For purposes of this subsection, world languages shall  
19 include American Sign Language, provided such subject matter is  
20 taught by a qualified instructor under the supervision of a teacher who  
21 holds a certificate issued by the State Board of Education. For purposes  
22 of this subsection, the "arts" means any form of visual or performing  
23 arts, which may include, but not be limited to, dance, music, art and  
24 theatre.

25 (b) If a local or regional board of education requires its pupils to  
26 take a course in a world language, the parent or guardian of a pupil  
27 identified as deaf or hearing impaired may request in writing that such  
28 pupil be exempted from such requirement and, if such a request is  
29 made, such pupil shall be exempt from such requirement.

30 (c) Each local and regional board of education shall on September 1,  
31 1982, and annually thereafter at such time and in such manner as the  
32 Commissioner of Education shall request, attest to the State Board of  
33 Education that such local or regional board of education offers at least  
34 the program of instruction required pursuant to this section, and that  
35 such program of instruction is planned, ongoing and systematic.

36 (d) The State Board of Education shall make available curriculum  
37 materials and such other materials as may assist local and regional  
38 boards of education in developing instructional programs pursuant to  
39 this section. The State Board of Education, within available  
40 appropriations and utilizing available resource materials, shall assist  
41 and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (1)  
42 Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; (2) the historical  
43 events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American  
44 history; (4) Puerto Rican history; (5) Native American history; (6)  
45 personal financial management; (7) training in cardiopulmonary  
46 resuscitation and the use of automatic external defibrillators; (8) labor

47 history and law, including organized labor, the collective bargaining  
48 process and existing legal protections in the workplace; and [(8)] (9)  
49 topics approved by the state board upon the request of local or  
50 regional boards of education as part of the program of instruction  
51 offered pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	10-16b

**Statement of Purpose:**

To support a well-rounded education by including labor history and law in the prescribed courses of study in the public school curriculum.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*