



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Raised Bill No. 7082

LCO No. 3806



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES 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 Section 10-16b of the general statutes is repealed and the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, 2019*):

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, including cardiopulmonary
8 resuscitation training in accordance with the provisions of section 10-
9 16qq, disease prevention and cancer awareness, including, but not
10 limited to, age and developmentally appropriate instruction in
11 performing self-examinations for the purposes of screening for breast
12 cancer and testicular cancer, community and consumer health,
13 physical, mental and emotional health, including youth suicide
14 prevention, substance abuse prevention, including instruction relating
15 to opioid use and related disorders, safety, which shall include the safe

16 use of social media, as defined in section 9-601, and may include the
17 dangers of gang membership, and accident prevention; language arts,
18 including reading, writing, grammar, speaking and spelling;
19 mathematics; physical education; science, which may include the
20 climate change curriculum described in subsection (d) of this section;
21 social studies, including, but not limited to, citizenship, economics,
22 geography, government, history, [and] Holocaust and genocide
23 education and awareness in accordance with the provisions of section
24 10-18f, and African-American studies in accordance with the
25 provisions of section 2 of this act; computer programming instruction;
26 and in addition, on at least the secondary level, one or more world
27 languages and vocational education. For purposes of this subsection,
28 world languages shall include American Sign Language, provided
29 such subject matter is taught by a qualified instructor under the
30 supervision of a teacher who holds a certificate issued by the State
31 Board of Education. For purposes of this subsection, the "arts" means
32 any form of visual or performing arts, which may include, but not be
33 limited to, dance, music, art and theatre.

34 (b) If a local or regional board of education requires its pupils to
35 take a course in a world language, the parent or guardian of a pupil
36 identified as deaf or hard of hearing may request in writing that such
37 pupil be exempted from such requirement and, if such a request is
38 made, such pupil shall be exempt from such requirement.

39 (c) Each local and regional board of education shall on September 1,
40 1982, and annually thereafter at such time and in such manner as the
41 Commissioner of Education shall request, attest to the State Board of
42 Education that such local or regional board of education offers at least
43 the program of instruction required pursuant to this section, and that
44 such program of instruction is planned, ongoing and systematic.

45 (d) The State Board of Education shall make available curriculum
46 materials and such other materials as may assist local and regional
47 boards of education in developing instructional programs pursuant to
48 this section. The State Board of Education, within available

49 appropriations and utilizing available resource materials, shall assist
50 and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (1)
51 Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; (2) the historical
52 events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American
53 history; (4) Puerto Rican history; (5) Native American history; (6)
54 personal financial management, including, but not limited to, financial
55 literacy as developed in the plan provided under section 10-16pp; (7)
56 training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automatic
57 external defibrillators; (8) labor history and law, including organized
58 labor, the collective bargaining process, existing legal protections in the
59 workplace, the history and economics of free market capitalism and
60 entrepreneurialism, and the role of labor and capitalism in the
61 development of the American and world economies; (9) climate
62 change consistent with the Next Generation Science Standards; (10)
63 topics approved by the state board upon the request of local or
64 regional boards of education as part of the program of instruction
65 offered pursuant to subsection (a) of this section; and (11) instruction
66 relating to the Safe Haven Act, sections 17a-57 to 17a-61, inclusive. The
67 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall be available
68 to each local and regional board of education for the development of
69 curriculum on climate change as described in this subsection.

70 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) (a) For the school year
71 commencing July 1, 2019, and each school year thereafter, each local
72 and regional board of education shall include African-American
73 studies as part of the social studies curriculum for the school district,
74 pursuant to section 10-16b of the general statutes, as amended by this
75 act. In developing and implementing the African-American studies
76 curriculum, the board may utilize existing and appropriate public or
77 private materials, personnel and other resources, including the
78 curriculum materials made available by the State Board of Education
79 pursuant to subsection (d) of said section 10-16b.

80 (b) A local or regional board of education may accept gifts, grants
81 and donations, including in-kind donations, designated for the
82 development and implementation of the African-American studies

83 curriculum under this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-16b
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To include African-American studies in the social studies component of 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.]