



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 7083

January Session, 2019



**AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF PUERTO RICAN AND
LATINO 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 Section 10-16b of the general statutes is repealed and the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; Puerto Rican and Latino 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] and Latino studies; (5) Native
54 American history; (6) personal financial management, including, but
55 not limited to, financial literacy as developed in the plan provided
56 under section 10-16pp; (7) training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation
57 and the use of automatic external defibrillators; (8) labor history and
58 law, including organized labor, the collective bargaining process,
59 existing legal protections in the workplace, the history and economics
60 of free market capitalism and entrepreneurialism, and the role of labor
61 and capitalism in the development of the American and world
62 economies; (9) climate change consistent with the Next Generation
63 Science Standards; (10) topics approved by the state board upon the
64 request of local or regional boards of education as part of the program
65 of instruction offered pursuant to subsection (a) of this section; and
66 (11) instruction relating to the Safe Haven Act, sections 17a-57 to 17a-
67 61, inclusive. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
68 shall be available to each local and regional board of education for the
69 development of curriculum on climate change as described in this
70 subsection.

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

82 (b) A local or regional board of education may accept gifts, grants
83 and donations, including in-kind donations, designated for the
84 development and implementation of the Puerto Rican and Latino
85 studies curriculum under this section.

86 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 10-221a of the general statutes is
87 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
88 *1, 2019*):

89 (c) Commencing with classes graduating in 2023, and for each
90 graduating class thereafter, no local or regional board of education
91 shall permit any student to graduate from high school or grant a
92 diploma to any student who has not satisfactorily completed a
93 minimum of twenty-five credits, including not fewer than: (1) Nine
94 credits in the humanities, including civics and the arts; (2) nine credits
95 in science, technology, engineering and mathematics; (3) one credit in
96 physical education and wellness; (4) one credit in health and safety
97 education, as described in section 10-16b, as amended by this act; (5)
98 one credit in world languages, subject to the provisions of subsection
99 (g) of this section; and (6) a one credit mastery-based diploma
100 assessment. At least one credit, which may count towards any of the
101 requirements described in subdivisions (1) to (6), inclusive, of this
102 subsection shall be in Puerto Rican and Latino studies.

103 Sec. 4. Subsection (g) of section 10-221a of the general statutes is
104 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
105 *1, 2019*):

106 (g) Only courses taken in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, and that
107 are in accordance with the state-wide subject matter content standards,
108 adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-4, shall
109 satisfy the graduation requirements set forth in this section, except that
110 a local or regional board of education may grant a student credit (1)
111 toward meeting the high school graduation requirements upon the
112 successful demonstration of mastery of the subject matter content
113 described in this section achieved through educational experiences and
114 opportunities that provide flexible and multiple pathways to learning,
115 including cross-curricular graduation requirements, career and
116 technical education, virtual learning, work-based learning, service
117 learning, dual enrollment and early college, courses taken in middle
118 school, internships and student-designed independent studies,

119 provided such demonstration of mastery is in accordance with such
120 state-wide subject matter content standards; (2) toward meeting a
121 specified course requirement upon the successful completion in grade
122 seven or eight of any course, the primary focus of which corresponds
123 directly to the subject matter of a specified course requirement in
124 grades nine to twelve, inclusive; (3) toward meeting the high school
125 graduation requirement upon the successful completion of a world
126 language course (A) in grade six, seven or eight, (B) through on-line
127 coursework, or (C) offered privately through a nonprofit provider,
128 provided such student achieves a passing grade on an examination
129 prescribed, within available appropriations, by the Commissioner of
130 Education and such credits do not exceed four; (4) toward meeting the
131 high school graduation requirement upon achievement of a passing
132 grade on a subject area proficiency examination identified and
133 approved, within available appropriations, by the Commissioner of
134 Education, regardless of the number of hours the student spent in a
135 public school classroom learning such subject matter; (5) toward
136 meeting the high school graduation requirement upon the successful
137 completion of coursework during the school year or summer months
138 at an institution accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher
139 Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited. One
140 three-credit semester course, or its equivalent, at such an institution
141 shall equal one-half credit for purposes of this section; (6) toward
142 meeting the high school graduation requirement upon the successful
143 completion of on-line coursework, provided the local or regional board
144 of education has adopted a policy in accordance with this subdivision
145 for the granting of credit for on-line coursework. Such a policy shall
146 ensure, at a minimum, that (A) the workload required by the on-line
147 course is equivalent to that of a similar course taught in a traditional
148 classroom setting, (B) the content is rigorous and aligned with
149 curriculum guidelines approved by the State Board of Education,
150 where appropriate, (C) the course engages students and has interactive
151 components, which may include, but are not limited to, required
152 interactions between students and their teachers, participation in on-
153 line demonstrations, discussion boards or virtual labs, (D) the program

154 of instruction for such on-line coursework is planned, ongoing and
155 systematic, and (E) the courses are (i) taught by teachers who are
156 certified in the state or another state and have received training on
157 teaching in an on-line environment, or (ii) offered by institutions of
158 higher education that are accredited by the Board of Regents for
159 Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally
160 accredited; [or] (7) toward meeting the high school graduation
161 requirement upon the successful completion of the academic
162 advancement program, pursuant to section 10-5c; or (8) toward
163 meeting the high school graduation requirement upon the successful
164 completion of the course in Puerto Rican and Latino studies developed
165 pursuant to section 5 of this act.

166 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than July 1, 2020, the
167 Department of Education shall develop the curriculum for a course in
168 Puerto Rican and Latino studies. Such course shall count as one credit
169 for purposes of the high school graduation requirements pursuant to
170 section 10-221a of the general statutes, as amended by this act. In
171 developing and implementing the curriculum for the course in Puerto
172 Rican and Latino studies, the department may utilize existing and
173 appropriate public or private materials, personnel and other resources,
174 including the curriculum materials made available pursuant to
175 subsection (d) of said section 10-16b of the general statutes, as
176 amended by this act.

177 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than July 1, 2020,
178 the State Board of Education shall develop and adopt a model
179 curriculum for grades kindergarten to eight, inclusive. Such model
180 curriculum shall be in accordance with the provisions of section 10-16b
181 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and include Puerto
182 Rican and Latino studies within and among various subject matter
183 areas. The state board shall make such model curriculum available on
184 the Internet web site of the Department of Education.

185 (b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2020, and each school
186 year thereafter, the Department of Education shall provide, upon

187 request of a local or regional board of education, technical assistance
188 and training to assist in the implementation of the model curriculum
189 for grades kindergarten to eight, inclusive.

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
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-221a(c)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-221a(g)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	New section

ED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

APP *Joint Favorable*