AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER STUDIES IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

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

Section 1. Section 10-16b of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 376 of public act 21-2 of the June special session, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2025):

(a) In the public schools the program of instruction offered shall include at least the following subject matter, as taught by legally qualified teachers, the arts; career education; consumer education; health and safety, including, but not limited to, human growth and development, nutrition, first aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation training in accordance with the provisions of section 10-16qq, disease prevention and cancer awareness, including, but not limited to, age and developmentally appropriate instruction in performing self-examinations for the purposes of screening for breast cancer and testicular cancer, community and consumer health, physical, mental and emotional health, including youth suicide prevention, substance abuse prevention, including instruction relating to opioid use and related disorders, safety, which shall include the safe use of social
media, as defined in section 9-601, and may include the dangers of gang
membership, and accident prevention; language arts, including reading,
writing, grammar, speaking and spelling; mathematics; physical
education; science, which may include the climate change curriculum
described in subsection (d) of this section; social studies, including, but
not limited to, citizenship, economics, geography, government, history
and Holocaust and genocide education and awareness in accordance
with the provisions of section 10-18f; African-American and black
studies in accordance with the provisions of section 10-16ss; Puerto
Rican and Latino studies in accordance with the provisions of section
10-16ss; Native American studies, in accordance with the provisions of
section 10-16vv; Asian American and Pacific Islander studies, in
accordance with the provisions of section 2 of this act; computer
programming instruction; and in addition, on at least the secondary
level, one or more world languages; vocational education; and the black
and Latino studies course in accordance with the provisions of sections
10-16tt and 10-16uu. For purposes of this subsection, world languages
shall include American Sign Language, provided such subject matter is
taught by a qualified instructor under the supervision of a teacher who
holds a certificate issued by the State Board of Education. For purposes
of this subsection, the "arts" means any form of visual or performing
arts, which may include, but not be limited to, dance, music, art and
theatre.

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

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

(d) The State Board of Education shall make available curriculum materials and such other materials as may assist local and regional boards of education in developing instructional programs pursuant to this section. The State Board of Education, within available appropriations and utilizing available resource materials, shall assist and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (1) Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; (2) the historical events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American and black studies; (4) Puerto Rican and Latino studies; (5) Native American studies; (6) Asian American and Pacific Islander studies; (7) personal financial management, including, but not limited to, financial literacy as developed in the plan provided under section 10-16pp; (7) training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automatic external defibrillators; (9) labor history and law, including organized labor, the collective bargaining process, existing legal protections in the workplace, the history and economics of free market capitalism and entrepreneurialism, and the role of labor and capitalism in the development of the American and world economies; (9) climate change consistent with the Next Generation Science Standards; (10) topics approved by the state board upon the request of local or regional boards of education as part of the program of instruction offered pursuant to subsection (a) of this section; and (11) instruction relating to the Safe Haven Act, sections 17a-57 to 17a-61, inclusive. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall be available to each local and regional board of education for the development of curriculum on climate change as described in this subsection.

Sec. 2. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2022) (a) For the school year commencing July 1, 2025, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall include Asian American and Pacific Islander studies as part of the social studies curriculum for the school district, pursuant to section 10-16b of the general statutes, as amended
by this act. Such Asian American and Pacific Islander studies shall include, but need not be limited to, a focus on (1) the history of Asian American and Pacific Islanders in the state, the region and the United States, and (2) the contributions of (A) Asian American and Pacific Islanders towards advancing civil rights from the nineteenth century to the present day, (B) individual Asian American and Pacific Islanders in government, the arts, humanities and sciences, and (C) Asian American and Pacific Islander communities to the economic, cultural, social and political development of the United States. In developing and implementing the Asian American and Pacific Islander studies curriculum, the board may utilize the curriculum materials made available by the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-16b of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or other existing and appropriate public or private materials, personnel and resources, provided such curriculum is in accordance with the state-wide subject matter content standards, adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-4 of the general statutes.

(b) A local or regional board of education may accept gifts, grants and donations, including in-kind donations, designated for the development and implementation of the Asian American and Pacific Islander studies curriculum under this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

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<td>2</td>
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ED Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

APP Joint Favorable