
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6758

AN ACT CONCERNING STAFFING FOR CERTAIN ROLES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the education commissioner to employ at least five special education evaluators to (1) review the special education services local and regional boards of education provide and (2) evaluate complaints related to these services.

The bill also requires the commissioner to employ at least one curriculum coordinator. It requires the coordinator to provide curriculum materials and assist and encourage local and regional boards of education to include certain subject areas when developing instructional programs.

The bill requires the coordinator to assist with a number of subject areas in existing law, including:

1. financial literacy in high school,
2. cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) as part of the health and safety curriculum,
3. African American and black studies and Puerto Rican and Latino studies as part of the curriculum,
4. black and Latino studies course offered in high school,
5. Native American studies as part of the social studies curriculum,
6. Asian American and Pacific Islander studies as part of the social studies curriculum (school years beginning on or after July 1, 2025), and

7. Holocaust and genocide education and awareness as part of the social studies curriculum.

These subject areas overlap with many of the subjects in the statutorily required program of instruction that all districts must provide (see BACKGROUND)

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

BACKGROUND

Required Program of Instruction

By law, the required program of instruction includes, among other subjects, the arts; health and safety, including CPR instruction; language arts, including reading and writing; mathematics; physical education; science; and social studies, including citizenship, geography, government, history, Holocaust and genocide awareness, African American and black studies, Puerto Rican and Latino studies, Native American studies, and Asian American and Pacific Islander studies (CGS § 10-16b). (A separate law specifies the minimum high school graduation requirements.)

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 39 Nay 2 (03/10/2023)