
SENATE BILL 5023

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Hasegawa, Conway, Frockt, Wellman, Wilson, C., and Saldaña

Prefiled 12/12/18. Read first time 01/14/19. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to an ethnic studies curriculum for public school
2 students; adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; creating new
3 sections; and providing an expiration date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature stated in RCW 28A.150.210
6 that a "basic education is an evolving program of instruction that is
7 intended to provide students with the opportunity to become
8 responsible and respectful global citizens." In order to prepare
9 students to be global citizens, the legislature intends to require
10 that the superintendent of public instruction develop, and
11 periodically update, a model ethnic studies curriculum for use in
12 grades seven through twelve. The legislature also intends to
13 encourage public schools with students in grades seven through twelve
14 to offer an ethnic studies course that incorporates this curriculum.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 (1) By September 1, 2020, the superintendent of public
18 instruction shall develop and periodically update a model ethnic
19 studies curriculum for use in grades seven through twelve. The model
20 curriculum must be designed to prepare students to be global citizens

1 in a global society with an appreciation for the contributions of
2 multiple cultures. The model curriculum must be posted on the
3 superintendent of public instruction's web site.

4 (2) Public schools with students in grades seven through twelve
5 are encouraged to offer an ethnic studies course that incorporates
6 the curriculum developed under subsection (1) of this section.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1)(a) To aid in the development of the
8 ethnic studies curriculum required under section 2 of this act, the
9 superintendent of public instruction must establish an ethnic studies
10 advisory committee.

11 (b) The ethnic studies advisory committee must advise, assist,
12 and make recommendations to the superintendent of public instruction
13 regarding the development of the model ethnic studies curriculum
14 required under section 2 of this act.

15 (c) The ethnic studies advisory committee must be composed of a
16 majority of educators with experience in teaching ethnic studies from
17 public high schools and institutions of higher education, including
18 educators representing the Washington state commissions on African-
19 American affairs, Asian Pacific American affairs, and Hispanic
20 affairs, and the governor's office of Indian affairs.

21 (2) This section expires June 30, 2021.

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