

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to educational instruction of  
 3           historical events; directing the Commissioner of  
 4           Education's African American History Task Force to  
 5           determine ways in which the 1920 Ocoee Election Day  
 6           Riots will be included in required instruction on  
 7           African-American history; requiring the task force to  
 8           submit recommendations to the commissioner and the  
 9           State Board of Education by a specified date;  
 10          directing the Secretary of State to take certain  
 11          action regarding the inclusion of the history of the  
 12          1920 Ocoee Election Day Riots in museum exhibits;  
 13          directing the Secretary of Environmental Protection to  
 14          assess naming opportunities for state parks, or a  
 15          portion of a facility therein, in recognizing victims  
 16          of the 1920 Ocoee Election Day Riots; authorizing the  
 17          secretary to appoint a committee to assist in  
 18          assessing naming opportunities; requiring the  
 19          secretary to submit recommendations to the Legislature  
 20          under specified circumstances; encouraging district  
 21          school boards to assess naming opportunities for  
 22          naming school facilities in recognition of victims of  
 23          the 1920 Ocoee Election Day Riots; amending s.  
 24          1003.42, F.S.; including certain instruction related  
 25          to anti-Semitism in the required instruction relating

26 to the Holocaust; providing school district and  
 27 Department of Education requirements relating to such  
 28 instruction; authorizing the department to seek input  
 29 from certain entities for specified purposes relating  
 30 to such instruction; authorizing the department to  
 31 contract with specified entities to develop specified  
 32 training and resources relating to such instruction;  
 33 designating a certain week as "Holocaust Education  
 34 Week;" providing an effective date.

35

36 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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38 Section 1. The Commissioner of Education's African  
 39 American History Task Force is directed to examine ways in which  
 40 the history of the 1920 Ocoee Election Day Riots will be  
 41 included in instruction on African-American history required  
 42 pursuant to s. 1003.42(2)(h), Florida Statutes. The task force  
 43 shall submit its recommendations to the Commissioner of  
 44 Education and the State Board of Education by March 1, 2021.

45 Section 2. The Secretary of State is directed to:

46 (1) In coordination with the Division of Cultural Affairs  
 47 of the Department of State, determine how the Museum of Florida  
 48 History and other state museums will promote the history of the  
 49 1920 Ocoee Election Day Riots through exhibits and educational  
 50 programs.

51           (2) Collaborate with the National Museum of African  
52 American History and Culture of the Smithsonian Institution to  
53 seek inclusion of the history of the 1920 Ocoee Election Day  
54 Riots in the museum's exhibits.

55           Section 3. The Secretary of Environmental Protection is  
56 directed to determine which state park, or a portion of or a  
57 facility therein, will be named in recognition of any victim of  
58 the 1920 Ocoee Election Day Riots. The secretary may appoint a  
59 committee to assess naming opportunities. If a change to state  
60 law is required in order to change the designation of a state  
61 park, or a portion of or a facility therein, the secretary shall  
62 submit any such recommendation to the President of the Senate  
63 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

64           Section 4. District school boards are encouraged to assess  
65 opportunities for naming school facilities in recognition of  
66 victims of the 1920 Ocoee Election Day Riots.

67           Section 5. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section  
68 1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

69           1003.42 Required instruction.—

70           (2) Members of the instructional staff of the public  
71 schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education  
72 and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and  
73 faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the  
74 highest standards for professionalism and historical accuracy,  
75 following the prescribed courses of study, and employing

76 approved methods of instruction, the following:

77 (g)1. The history of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the  
78 systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other  
79 groups by Nazi Germany, a watershed event in the history of  
80 humanity, to be taught in a manner that leads to an  
81 investigation of human behavior, an understanding of the  
82 ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping, and an  
83 examination of what it means to be a responsible and respectful  
84 person, for the purposes of encouraging tolerance of diversity  
85 in a pluralistic society and for nurturing and protecting  
86 democratic values and institutions, including the policy,  
87 definition, and historical and current examples of anti-  
88 Semitism, as described in s. 1000.05(7), and the prevention of  
89 anti-Semitism. Each school district must annually certify and  
90 provide evidence to the department, in a manner prescribed by  
91 the department, that the requirements of this paragraph are met.  
92 The department shall prepare and offer standards and curriculum  
93 for the instruction required by this paragraph and may seek  
94 input from the Commissioner of Education's Task Force on  
95 Holocaust Education or from any state or nationally recognized  
96 Holocaust educational organizations. The department may contract  
97 with any state or nationally recognized Holocaust educational  
98 organizations to develop training for instructional personnel  
99 and grade-appropriate classroom resources to support the  
100 developed curriculum.

101           2. The second week in November shall be designated as  
102 "Holocaust Education Week" in this state in recognition that  
103 November is the anniversary of Kristallnacht, widely recognized  
104 as a precipitating event that led to the Holocaust.

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106 The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards  
107 and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection. A  
108 character development program that incorporates the values of  
109 the recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is  
110 offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or  
111 other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness  
112 initiative meets the requirements of paragraphs (s) and (t).

113           Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.