

By the Committee on Education; and Senators Book, Hooper, Rader, Berman, and Cruz

581-03382-20

20201628c1

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to Holocaust education; amending s.
3 1003.42, F.S.; including the study of a specified
4 policy against anti-Semitism in specified instruction;
5 providing school district, charter school, and
6 Department of Education requirements relating to such
7 instruction; authorizing the department to work with
8 certain Holocaust educational organizations for
9 specified purposes relating to the required
10 instruction; providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section
15 1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

16 1003.42 Required instruction.—

17 (2) Members of the instructional staff of the public
18 schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education
19 and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and
20 faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the
21 highest standards for professionalism and historical accuracy,
22 following the prescribed courses of study, and employing
23 approved methods of instruction, the following:

24 (g) The history of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the
25 systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other
26 groups by Nazi Germany, a watershed event in the history of
27 humanity, to be taught in a manner that leads to an
28 investigation of human behavior, an understanding of the
29 ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping, and an

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30 examination of what it means to be a responsible and respectful
31 person, for the purposes of encouraging tolerance of diversity
32 in a pluralistic society and for nurturing and protecting
33 democratic values and institutions, including the policy against
34 anti-Semitism, as described in s. 1000.05(7). Each school
35 district and charter school must annually certify and provide
36 evidence to the department, in a manner prescribed by the
37 department, that the requirements of this paragraph are met. The
38 department shall prepare and offer curriculum standards for the
39 instruction required by this paragraph and may work with the
40 Florida Holocaust Museum and other state or nationally
41 recognized Holocaust educational organizations to develop grade-
42 appropriate curricula, training for instructional personnel, and
43 classroom resources for the instruction required by this
44 paragraph.

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46 The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards
47 and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection. A
48 character development program that incorporates the values of
49 the recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is
50 offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or
51 other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness
52 initiative meets the requirements of paragraphs (s) and (t).

53 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.