

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BILL ANALYSIS

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BILL #: [CS/HB 31](#)

TITLE: Recognizing Judea and Samaria

SPONSOR(S): Tramont and Tendrich

Committee References

[Government Operations](#)

16 Y, 1 N, As CS

COMPANION BILL: [SB 1106](#) (Massullo)

LINKED BILLS: None

RELATED BILLS: None

[State Affairs](#)

20 Y, 4 N

SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:

The bill prohibits a state agency from using the term “West Bank” in official government materials or expending funds to create official government materials using the term. The bill also requires public school and charter school instructional materials and library media center collections adopted or acquired on or after July 1, 2026, to refer to the land liberated by Israel from Jordan during the 1967 Six-Day War by its historical name of “Judea and Samaria” and not use the term “West Bank” to refer to that area.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:

The bill will likely have an indeterminate, negative fiscal impact on state government that is expected to be absorbed within existing resources.

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ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

The bill prohibits state agencies¹ from using the term “West Bank” to refer to Judea and Samaria in official government materials or from expending moneys to create official government materials² that refer to Judea and Samaria as the “West Bank.” The bill also requires public school and charter school instructional materials and library media center collections adopted or acquired on or after July 1, 2026, to refer to the land liberated by Israel from Jordan during the [1967 Six-Day War](#) by its historical name of “Judea and Samaria” and not use the term “West Bank” to refer to Judea and Samaria. (Sections [2](#) and [3](#))

The bill states that it is the intent of the Legislature to no longer use the term “West Bank” in official government materials and to refer to the land liberated by Israel from Jordan during the 1967 Six-Day War by its historical name of [“Judea and Samaria,”](#) with the land south of Jerusalem being considered “Judea” and the land north of Jerusalem being considered “Samaria.” (Section [2](#))

The bill provides that the act may be cited as the “Recognizing Judea and Samaria Act.” (Section [1](#))

The effective date of the bill is July 1, 2026. (Section [4](#))

FISCAL OR ECONOMIC IMPACT:

¹ The bill defines “state agency” to mean every department, division, office, board, commission, and institution of this state.

² The bill defines “official government material” to mean a guidance, rule, material, briefing, press release, communication, or work product document prepared by a state agency.

STORAGE NAME: h0031c.SAC

DATE: 1/27/2026

STATE GOVERNMENT:

The bill will likely have an indeterminate, negative fiscal impact on state government. The bill prohibits state agencies from using the term "West Bank" in official government materials, including a guidance, material, communication, or work product document prepared by a state agency. Any fiscal impact would depend on the extent to which future materials contain the term. Any associated costs are expected to be absorbed within existing resources.

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

Judea and Samaria

The region historically known as Judea and Samaria corresponds to the ancient Israelite kingdoms described in biblical sources. Around 1,000 years before the common era, the Kingdom of Israel split into two realms: a northern kingdom with its capital at Samaria and a southern kingdom with its capital at Judea.³ These ancient names have been used historically to describe the central highlands of the land west of the Jordan River, referred to in many parts of the world today as the "West Bank."

1948 Arab-Israeli War

Following World War I, the League of Nations⁴ placed the land west of the Jordan River⁵ under British administration as part of the Mandate for Palestine.⁶ In 1947, the United Nations adopted the Partition Resolution⁷ proposing separate Jewish and Arab states, but the plan was never implemented.⁸ After Britain withdrew in May 1948, Israel's declared independence and armed conflict immediately erupted resulting in the 1948 Arab-Israeli War.⁹ At the conclusion of the war in mid-1949, the parties agreed to formal armistice lines¹⁰ with Israel controlling most of the territory of the former British Mandate for Palestine, Jordan controlling the West Bank, and Egypt controlling the Gaza Strip.¹¹ The city of Jerusalem was divided, with Israel holding the western portion and Jordan holding the Eastern portion.¹² In 1950, Jordan formally annexed the West Bank, a move that was recognized by only Great Britain and Pakistan.¹³

³ See Britannica, [What does the Term "Judea and Samaria" Mean?](#) (last visited January 15, 2026).

⁴ The League of Nations was an international organization formed in 1919 after World War I to promote cooperation and achieve peace and security. It operated until 1946 and was succeeded by the United Nations. United Nations, [Predecessor: The League of Nations](#) (last visited January 11, 2026).

⁵ The Mandate of Palestine included the southern Levant region; however, Great Britain authorized the Hashemite dynasty to administer the portion east of the Jordan River, referred to as Transjordan, and granted the region full independence in 1946. Britannica, [World War I and After](#) (last visited January 16, 2026).

⁶ The Mandate's preamble explicitly recognized the historical connection of the Jewish people with Palestine and called for reconstituting their national home in that territory, while safeguarding the rights of all non-Jewish inhabitants. United Nations Digital Library, [Text of Mandate for Palestine](#) (last visited January 11, 2026).

⁷ See United Nations, [Resolution 181\(II\) Future Government of Palestine](#) (last visited January 11, 2026).

⁸ Under the 1947 United Nations Partition Resolution, Jerusalem would remain under international control and be administered by the United Nations. U.S. Department of State, [The Arab-Israeli War of 1948](#) (last visited January 11, 2026). Jewish leaders accepted the United Nations partition plan, but Arab leaders rejected it, arguing the plan unjustly allocated land and violated their right to self-determination. See Explaining History Podcast, [The Un Partition Plan of 1947: Origins, Debates, and Consequences](#) (last visited January 11, 2026).

⁹ See Britannica, [1948 Arab-Israeli War](#) (last visited January 16, 2026).

¹⁰ The armistice lines were ceasefire lines agreed to without prejudice to future negotiations on boundaries or sovereignty. See Yale Law School, [Jordanian-Israeli General Armistice Agreement, April 3, 1949](#) (last visited January 11, 2026).

¹¹ U.S. Department of State, [The Arab-Israeli War of 1948](#) (last visited January 11, 2026); History.com, [Palestine](#) (last visited January 11, 2026).

¹² Britannica, [Jerusalem in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: Whose capital is it?](#) (last visited January 15, 2026).

¹³ Britannica, [West Bank](#) (last visited January 15, 2026). The term "West Bank" became the common designation for the territory during this period.

1967 Six-Day War

In June 1967, hostilities between Israel and neighboring states lead to the Six-Day War. Amid rising tensions, Israel launched preemptive strikes and fought against Egypt, Syria, and Jordan. Israel defeated the opposing forces and captured several territories, including the West Bank and Gaza Strip.¹⁴ Shortly after the war, Israel extended its law and administration to East Jerusalem, while the West Bank and Gaza Strip came under Israeli military occupation.¹⁵

Since 1967, the status and proper terminology for the territory have remained the subject of ongoing political and diplomatic dispute.

Instructional Materials

Each district school board has the constitutional duty and responsibility to select and provide adequate instructional materials for all students for core courses in mathematics, language arts, science, social studies, reading, and literature for kindergarten through grade 12.¹⁶ Instructional materials are items having intellectual content that by design serve as a major tool for assisting in the instruction of a subject or course.¹⁷ These items may be available in bound, unbound, kit, or package form and may consist of hardbacked or softbacked textbooks, electronic content, consumables, learning laboratories, manipulatives, electronic media, and computer courseware or software.¹⁸ A publisher may offer sections of state-adopted instructional materials in digital or electronic versions at reduced rates to districts, schools, and teachers.¹⁹ Publishers must make sample student editions of state-adopted instructional materials electronically available, at a discount below publisher cost, for use by teacher preparation programs and by educator preparation institutes for each adoption cycle, to enable educators to practice teaching with currently adopted instructional materials aligned to state academic standards.²⁰

Generally, the Commissioner of Education (commissioner) adopts instructional materials according to a five-year rotating schedule. The commissioner may approve a shorter schedule if the content area requires more frequent revision.²¹ The Department of Education (DOE) annually publishes an official schedule of subject areas calling for adoption for each of the succeeding two years and a tentative schedule for years three through five. Under extenuating circumstances, the commissioner may direct the DOE to add one or more subject areas to the official schedule.²²

Before adopting instructional materials in a certain subject area, the DOE publishes specifications for the materials. These specifications detail the courses for which materials are sought and the standards the materials must meet.²³ Beginning with the 2026–2027 adoption cycle, the DOE must publish an instructional materials adoption timeline that includes publishing bid specifications, advertising in the Florida Administrative Register, and specifying deadlines for submitting bids. The adoption cycle must include at least six months between the release of the bid specifications and the deadline for the submission of bids, and publication of an initial list of state-adopted instructional materials no later than July 31 in the year preceding the adoption.²⁴ For the 2025–2026 instructional materials adoption cycle, the DOE published its list of state-adopted instructional materials.²⁵

¹⁴ See Britannica, [Six-Day War](#) (last visited January 15, 2026).

¹⁵ See Britannica, [West Bank](#) (last visited January 11, 2026).

¹⁶ See s. [1006.28\(2\), F.S.](#)

¹⁷ S. [1006.29\(2\), F.S.](#)

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ *Id.*; see also s. [1006.28\(1\), F.S.](#)

²⁰ S. [1006.38\(3\), F.S.](#)

²¹ S. [1006.36\(1\), F.S.](#)

²² S. [1006.36\(2\), F.S.](#)

²³ Florida Department of Education, [Policies and Procedures for the Florida Instructional Materials Adoption](#) (last visited January 21, 2026).

²⁴ S. [1006.33\(1\)\(a\)1., F.S.](#)

²⁵ See Florida Department of Education, [List of Active Adopted Materials](#) (last visited January 21, 2026).

The following chart shows the adoption schedule for instructional materials through Fiscal Year 2030–2031:²⁶

Adoption Year	Subject Area	Specifications and Criteria Available	State Adoption Process	Effective Date of Contract April 1–March 31
2026–2027	Mathematics and Computer Science, K–12	January 2025	June 2025–July 2026	2027–2032
2027–2028	Social Studies, K–12	January 2026	June 2026–July 2027	2028–2033
2028–2029	Science, K–12	January 2027	June 2027–July 2028	2029–2034
2029–2030	English Language Arts, K–12	January 2028	June 2028–July 2029	2030–2035
2030–2031	Career and Technical Education, 9–12 Health and Physical Education, K–12 Performing and Visual Arts, K–12 World Languages, K–12	January 2029	June 2029–July 2030	2031–2036

Funding for Instructional Materials

Funding for instructional materials is provided annually by the Legislature in the General Appropriations Act and is included in the base student allocation.²⁷ Each school district must certify to the commissioner the estimated allocation of state funds for instructional materials for the ensuing fiscal year, on or before July 1 each year.²⁸ Unless a school district has implemented its own instructional materials program,²⁹ any instructional materials purchased using state funds must be aligned with the state academic standards³⁰ and included on the state-adopted instructional materials list.³¹ Up to 50 percent of the amount the school district has budgeted for instructional materials may be used to:

- Purchase library and reference books and nonprint materials;
- Purchase other materials having intellectual content that assist in the instruction of a subject or course; or
- Repair or renovate textbooks and library books and replace items that were part of previously purchased instructional materials.³²

BILL HISTORY

COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
Government Operations Subcommittee	16 Y, 1 N, As CS	1/21/2026	Toliver	Villa
THE CHANGES ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:	Removed a provision authorizing state agencies to use the term “West Bank” under specified conditions and required instructional material and library media center collections acquired on or after July 1, 2026, to use the terms “Judea and Samaria” and not the term “West Bank.”			
State Affairs Committee	20 Y, 4 N	1/27/2026	Williamson	Villa

THIS BILL ANALYSIS HAS BEEN UPDATED TO INCORPORATE ALL OF THE CHANGES DESCRIBED ABOVE.

²⁶ Florida Department of Education, [Florida Instructional Materials Adoption Schedule For Adoption Years 2026–2027](#) through 2030–2031 (last visited January 21, 2026).

²⁷ See Florida Department of Education, [Funding for Florida’s School Districts, 2024–2025](#) (last visited January 21, 2026).

²⁸ S. [1006.40\(1\), F.S.](#)

²⁹ See s. [1006.283\(1\), F.S.](#)

³⁰ See s. [1003.41\(1\), F.S.](#)

³¹ S. [1006.40\(3\)\(a\), F.S.](#) Materials not on the state adopted list include library books, reference books, and nonprint materials.

³² S. [1006.40\(3\)\(b\), F.S.](#)

