

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to Holocaust education; amending s.
3 1003.42, F.S.; including certain instruction related
4 to anti-Semitism in the required instruction relating
5 to the Holocaust; providing school district and
6 Department of Education requirements relating to such
7 instruction; authorizing the department to seek input
8 from certain entities for specified purposes relating
9 to such instruction; authorizing the department to
10 contract with specified entities to develop specified
11 training and resources relating to such instruction;
12 designating a certain week as "Holocaust Education
13 Week;" providing an effective date.

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

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17 Section 1. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section
18 1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

19 1003.42 Required instruction.—

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

26 | approved methods of instruction, the following:

27 | (g)1. The history of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the
28 | systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other
29 | groups by Nazi Germany, a watershed event in the history of
30 | humanity, to be taught in a manner that leads to an
31 | investigation of human behavior, an understanding of the
32 | ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping, and an
33 | examination of what it means to be a responsible and respectful
34 | person, for the purposes of encouraging tolerance of diversity
35 | in a pluralistic society and for nurturing and protecting
36 | democratic values and institutions, including the policy,
37 | definition, and historical and current examples of anti-
38 | Semitism, as described in s. 1000.05(7), and the prevention of
39 | anti-Semitism. Each school district must annually certify and
40 | provide evidence to the department, in a manner prescribed by
41 | the department, that the requirements of this paragraph are met.
42 | The department shall prepare and offer standards and curriculum
43 | for the instruction required by this paragraph and may seek
44 | input from the Commissioner of Education's Task Force on
45 | Holocaust Education or from any state or nationally recognized
46 | Holocaust educational organizations. The department may contract
47 | with the Florida Holocaust Museum or other state or nationally
48 | recognized Holocaust educational organizations to develop
49 | training for instructional personnel and grade-appropriate
50 | classroom resources to support the developed curriculum.

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

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56 The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards
57 and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection. A
58 character development program that incorporates the values of
59 the recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is
60 offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or
61 other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness
62 initiative meets the requirements of paragraphs (s) and (t).

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