

HOUSE BILL No. 1591

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 1-1-17.5; IC 20-30-5.

Synopsis: Victims of Communism Remembrance Day. Requires the governor to annually issue a proclamation designating the seventh day of November as Victims of Communism Remembrance Day. Provides that suitable exercises in appropriate and solemn remembrance of the estimated 100,000,000 people whose deaths are attributed to the actions or policies of the world's communist regimes must be held in Indiana. Provides that a school corporation must include a study of the deaths attributed to the world's communist regimes in the school corporation's social studies curriculum. Requires the state board of education to adopt standards for teaching United States history in grade 9 through grade 12 that require at least 45 minutes of instruction on the history of communism.

Effective: July 1, 2025.

Carbaugh

January 21, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Government and Regulatory Reform.



First Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2025)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1591



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning general provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 1-1-17.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2025]:
4 **Chapter 17.5. Victims of Communism Remembrance Day**
5 **Sec. 1. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation**
6 **designating the seventh day of November as Victims of**
7 **Communism Remembrance Day.**
8 **Sec. 2. Suitable exercises in appropriate and solemn**
9 **remembrance of the estimated one hundred million (100,000,000)**
10 **people whose deaths are attributed to the actions or policies of the**
11 **world's communist regimes must be held in the state house and**
12 **elsewhere as designated by the governor, by Indiana high schools**
13 **in accordance with IC 20-30-5-7.9, and by citizens generally**
14 **throughout Indiana.**
15 SECTION 2. IC 20-30-5-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.32-2021,
16 SECTION 56, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
17 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 7. (a) Each school corporation shall include in the



- 1 school corporation's curriculum the following studies:
- 2 (1) Language arts, including:
- 3 (A) English;
- 4 (B) grammar;
- 5 (C) composition;
- 6 (D) speech; and
- 7 (E) second languages.
- 8 (2) Mathematics.
- 9 (3) Social studies and citizenship, including the:
- 10 (A) constitutions;
- 11 (B) governmental systems; and
- 12 (C) histories;
- 13 of Indiana and the United States, including an enhanced study of
- 14 the Holocaust **and a study conducted under section 7.9 of this**
- 15 **chapter of the deaths attributed to the world's communist**
- 16 **regimes**, in each high school United States history course. As part
- 17 of the United States government credit awarded for the general,
- 18 Core 40, Core 40 with academic honors, and Core 40 with
- 19 technical honors designation, each high school shall administer
- 20 the naturalization examination provided by the United States
- 21 Citizenship and Immigration Services.
- 22 (4) Sciences, including, after June 30, 2021, computer science.
- 23 (5) Fine arts, including music and art.
- 24 (6) Health education, physical fitness, safety, and the effects of
- 25 alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances on the human body.
- 26 (7) Additional studies selected by each governing body, subject
- 27 to revision by the state board.
- 28 (b) Each:
- 29 (1) school corporation;
- 30 (2) charter school; and
- 31 (3) state accredited nonpublic school;
- 32 shall offer the study of ethnic and racial groups as a one (1) semester
- 33 elective course in its high school curriculum at least once every school
- 34 year.
- 35 (c) The course described in subsection (b) may be offered by the
- 36 school corporation, charter school, or state accredited nonpublic school
- 37 through a course access program administered by the department.
- 38 (d) Not later than November 1, 2022, and not later than November
- 39 1 each year thereafter, the department shall report to the general
- 40 assembly in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 the following:
- 41 (1) The number of students who took the naturalization
- 42 examination described in subsection (a)(3).



1 (2) The number of students who passed the naturalization
 2 examination described in subsection (a)(3) by a score of not less
 3 than sixty percent (60%) on their first attempt.

4 (3) The pass rate of the naturalization examination regarding the
 5 students who passed as described in subdivision (2).

6 (e) Not more than thirty (30) days after the department reports to the
 7 general assembly the information under subsection (d), the department
 8 shall post the pass rate under subsection (d)(3) on the department's
 9 Internet web site.

10 SECTION 3. IC 20-30-5-7.9 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
 11 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
 12 1, 2025]: **Sec. 7.9. (a) Before April 1, 2026, the state board shall
 13 adopt standards for teaching United States history in grade 9
 14 through grade 12 that require at least forty-five minutes (45) of
 15 instruction on the following for purposes of section 5 of this
 16 chapter:**

17 (1) **The importance of observing November 7 as Victims of
 18 Communism Remembrance Day.**

19 (2) **Vladimir Lenin and the Russian revolutions of 1917.**

20 (3) **Joseph Stalin and the development of the Soviet system.**

21 (4) **Mao Zedong and the significance of the cultural revolution
 22 in China.**

23 (5) **Fidel Castro and the Cuban revolution.**

24 (6) **Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge.**

25 (7) **Nicolas Maduro and the Chavismo movement in
 26 Venezuela.**

27 (8) **The suffering caused by the regimes described in this
 28 subsection through poverty, starvation, migration, systemic
 29 lethal violence, and the suppression of speech and other civil
 30 liberties.**

31 (b) **Except as provided in subsection (c), each:**

32 (1) **school corporation;**

33 (2) **charter school; and**

34 (3) **state accredited nonpublic school;**

35 shall provide the instruction required by subsection (a) in
 36 observance of Victims of Communism Remembrance Day on
 37 November 7, 2026, and each year thereafter.

38 (c) **If November 7 falls on a day that is not a school day, a:**

39 (1) **school corporation;**

40 (2) **charter school; or**

41 (3) **state accredited nonpublic school;**

42 shall provide the instruction required by subsection (a) in



1 **observance of Victims of Communism Remembrance Day on an**
2 **appropriate school day determined by the chief administrative**
3 **officer of the school corporation, charter school, or state accredited**
4 **nonpublic school.**

