

# SENATE BILL NO. 132

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MOSLEY.

0057S.01I

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

## AN ACT

To amend chapter 161, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to black history education in public schools.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 161, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto  
2 one new section, to be known as section 161.710, to read as  
3 follows:

161.710. 1. This section shall be known and may be  
2 cited as the "Black History Education and Awareness  
3 Commission Act".

4 2. There is hereby created a permanent state  
5 commission known as the "Black History Education and  
6 Awareness Commission". The commission shall be housed in  
7 the department of elementary and secondary education and  
8 shall promote implementation of education and awareness  
9 programs that increase students' understanding of the  
10 history, experiences, and achievements of black people in  
11 this state and across the country, in accordance with the  
12 instructional topics outlined in subsection 6 of this  
13 section.

14 3. The commission shall be composed of the following  
15 thirteen members:

16 (1) The commissioner of elementary and secondary  
17 education;

18 (2) The commissioner of higher education;

19 (3) The president of Harris-Stowe State University;

20 (4) The superintendent of any school district where at  
21 least fifty percent of the students enrolled in such  
22 district are black, as confirmed by demographic data  
23 provided to the department of elementary and secondary  
24 education, to be appointed by the governor with the advice  
25 and consent of the senate, and to serve a term of three  
26 years; and

27 (5) Nine members of the public, representative of  
28 civil rights groups, racial justice organizations, and black  
29 professional organizations in Missouri, including, but not  
30 limited to, the National Association for the Advancement of  
31 Colored People, to be appointed by the governor with the  
32 advice and consent of the senate, and to serve terms of  
33 three years each, except that of the initial appointments,  
34 three members shall be appointed for a term of three years,  
35 three members shall be appointed for a term of two years,  
36 and three members shall be appointed for a term of one year.

37 4. The black history education and awareness  
38 commission may receive such funds as are appropriated by the  
39 general assembly or contributed by private sources. The  
40 commission may sponsor programs or publications to educate  
41 the public about black history. The commission may employ  
42 an executive director and such other persons to carry out  
43 its functions.

44 5. To educate students about the history, experiences,  
45 and achievements of black people in this state and across  
46 the country, and to inspire in students a sense of  
47 responsibility to recognize and uphold human value and to  
48 prevent bigotry, the first full week in February shall be  
49 designated as "Black History Week".

50           6. The black history week curriculum described in this  
51 subsection shall be taught during a week as determined by  
52 each school district beginning in the 2028-2029 school year  
53 and in each subsequent school year, and shall include age-  
54 appropriate instruction to students not lower than the sixth  
55 grade. Such instruction shall include, but not be limited  
56 to, the following topics:

57           (1) A detailed history of Africa, including, but not  
58 limited to, the birth of humanity in Africa, initial  
59 migrations of Africans out of Africa and into all continents  
60 and islands of the Earth, the development of black African  
61 civilizations, including, but not limited to, Egypt, Nubia,  
62 Kush, Ethiopia, Mali, Ghana, Songhay, Benin, Kanem-Bornu,  
63 and Great Zimbabwe; the effects of slavery and colonialism  
64 upon African societies; African independence movements; and  
65 modern-day Africa;

66           (2) Pre-Columbian contact between the indigenous  
67 Native Americans and Africans, including contact,  
68 visitation, interaction, and trade between Native Americans  
69 with Egypt and Mali, as well as settlements of Egyptians and  
70 Malians in both North and South America;

71           (3) The hypocrisy of the phrase "all men are created  
72 equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain  
73 unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and  
74 the Pursuit of Happiness" in the Declaration of  
75 Independence, given the enslavement of millions of human  
76 beings in the United States;

77           (4) Slavery provisions in the United States  
78 Constitution;

79           (5) The distinction between lifetime chattel slavery  
80 instituted in the Americas and old-world slavery;

81           (6) The economics of slavery;

- 82           (7) The following topics related to slavery in the  
83 United States:
- 84           (a) Slave breeding;
- 85           (b) Buck breaking;
- 86           (c) The rape of slaves;
- 87           (d) The mutilation of slaves;
- 88           (e) The castration of slaves;
- 89           (f) The murder of slaves;
- 90           (g) The starvation of slaves;
- 91           (h) The poor clothing of slaves;
- 92           (i) Destroying slave families through the selling of  
93 single members of slave families away from the family;
- 94           (j) Forcing slaves to work from sunup to sundown;
- 95           (k) The cruel and unusual punishment of slaves;
- 96           (l) The whipping of slaves;
- 97           (m) The shackling of slaves;
- 98           (n) A list of Presidents of the United States who  
99 owned slaves, to wit, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson,  
100 James Madison, James Monroe, Andrew Jackson, Martin Van  
101 Buren, William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, James K. Polk,  
102 Zachary Taylor, Andrew Johnson, and Ulysses S. Grant;
- 103           (o) Slave revolts;
- 104           (p) The burning and branding of slaves;
- 105           (q) The Fugitive Slave Act;
- 106           (r) The Underground Railroad;
- 107           (s) Prohibitions against teaching slaves how to read  
108 and write; and
- 109           (t) Laws providing that conversion to Christianity did  
110 not emancipate a slave;
- 111           (8) The participation of blacks in the Revolutionary  
112 War and broken promises of freedom if they fought on the  
113 side of the colonies;

- 114           (9) The participation of blacks in the Civil War;
- 115           (10) That as many as fifty million Africans lost their  
116 lives during the four-hundred-year slave trade;
- 117           (11) The fact that the Emancipation Proclamation did  
118 not free any slaves when issued by President Abraham Lincoln  
119 due to the fact that Lincoln did not apply it to the four  
120 slave states that did not secede from the Union,  
121 specifically Missouri, Maryland, Delaware, and Kentucky, nor  
122 to the three slave states that seceded but were under Union  
123 control at the time of the Emancipation Proclamation,  
124 specifically Louisiana, Virginia, and Tennessee, and that  
125 the Emancipation Proclamation could not be enforced in the  
126 remaining eight slave states that made up the Confederacy  
127 since such states were under the control of the Confederacy;
- 128           (12) That over one million Africans remained enslaved  
129 in the United States on June 19, 1865, "Juneteenth", since  
130 the Emancipation Proclamation did not apply to all slaves in  
131 the United States;
- 132           (13) That the emancipation of all slaves in the United  
133 States occurred on December 6, 1865, the date the Thirteenth  
134 Amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified  
135 abolishing slavery in the United States;
- 136           (14) That the Thirteenth Amendment allowed one to be  
137 enslaved for conviction of crime, which led to the former  
138 Confederate slave states' passage of the "Black Codes",  
139 which allowed for conviction of black people for trumped-up  
140 crimes such as loitering and vagrancy, the imprisonment of  
141 black people for such crimes, and the government leasing of  
142 those black people to work, without pay, like slaves to  
143 white-owned businesses, farmers, and manufacturers;
- 144           (15) The race massacres throughout the United States  
145 following the Civil War, and particularly the bombing and

146 destruction of the black owned and occupied Rosewood  
147 business and residential district of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and  
148 East St. Louis, Illinois;

149 (16) The violent overthrow of elected black  
150 governmental officials of Wilmington, North Carolina, by a  
151 white secessionist mob with no response by the state or  
152 federal governments;

153 (17) Black reconstruction of the South;

154 (18) The compromise ending reconstruction;

155 (19) Buffalo Soldiers;

156 (20) The participation of blacks in the Spanish-  
157 American War, World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and  
158 the Vietnam War;

159 (21) Discrimination against black veterans;

160 (22) Discrimination against black West Point cadets;

161 (23) Discrimination against black soldiers and attacks  
162 against black soldiers coming home from wars;

163 (24) The forced retirement of the highest-ranking  
164 black Army officer, Colonel Charles Young, in order to avoid  
165 promoting him as the first black Brigadier General solely  
166 because he was black;

167 (25) Black inventions and inability of black inventors  
168 to get loans or investments to develop their inventions;

169 (26) President Woodrow Wilson's aid to the revival of  
170 the Ku Klux Klan and Wilson's ordering segregation of  
171 governmental facilities and employees during his term of  
172 office between 1913 and 1921;

173 (27) Laws mandating discrimination and segregation on  
174 the basis of race;

175 (28) The real estate practices of redlining and  
176 restrictive covenants;

177           (29) Prohibitions against black athletes in  
178 professional and amateur sports;

179           (30) Laws prohibiting interracial marriages;

180           (31) President Harry Truman's order to integrate the  
181 military;

182           (32) The Voting Rights Act, Public Accommodations Act,  
183 Fair Housing Act, Hate Crimes Act, and Equal Employment  
184 Opportunity Act;

185           (33) The following Supreme Court cases: Dred Scott v.  
186 Sandford, Plessy v. Ferguson, Brown v. Board of Education of  
187 Topeka, Shelley v. Kraemer, and Missouri ex rel. Gaines v.  
188 Canada;

189           (34) Significant African Americans in history;

190           (35) President Dwight Eisenhower's order for American  
191 troops to protect black students integrating public schools;

192           (36) The civil rights movement;

193           (37) The counter intelligence program, "COINTELPRO",  
194 the Federal Bureau of Investigation's conspiracy against  
195 black civil rights leaders and groups;

196           (38) The freedom riders;

197           (39) The lynching of over four thousand black people  
198 in America between 1877 and 1950;

199           (40) The black lives matter movement, and the police  
200 murders of unarmed black people;

201           (41) The Tuskegee experiment on black men by failing  
202 to treat black men with syphilis to determine the effects of  
203 untreated syphilis upon human beings;

204           (42) Painful and crippling gynecological experiments  
205 on black women;

206           (43) Historically black colleges and universities; and  
207           (44) Such other African American history as shall  
208 fully detail and tell the history or story of Africans in

209 Africa, both before and after the European military invasion  
210 and colonization of Africa and the enslavement of Africans,  
211 including the European invaders and colonizers' violent  
212 dispossession of Africans from their homelands, and of gold,  
213 diamonds, and other minerals and natural resources; the  
214 Europeans' deprivation of Africans of their human rights  
215 both in the United States and in Africa; the African lives  
216 and bodies lost as a result of the European invasion and  
217 colonization of the Americas and Africa; and African  
218 Americans' history in the United States.

219         7. (1) The department of elementary and secondary  
220 education shall develop a curriculum framework of  
221 instruction for studying black history based on the  
222 instructional topics specified in subsection 6 of this  
223 section. The department shall make such curriculum  
224 framework available to up to twenty-five school districts or  
225 schools within a school district, with at least one school  
226 district or school located within each of the nine regional  
227 professional development centers recognized by the  
228 department, as part of a pilot program beginning in the 2026-  
229 2027 school year.

230         (2) Each school district or school participating in  
231 the pilot program shall adopt the curriculum framework  
232 provided by the department under subdivision (1) of this  
233 subsection in the 2026-2027 school year. Each school  
234 district or school shall determine the minimum amount of  
235 instruction time that qualifies as a unit of instruction  
236 satisfying the requirements of this subsection.

237         (3) Each participating school district or school shall  
238 provide a plan of professional development for teachers to  
239 ensure such teachers are adequately prepared to provide the  
240 instruction required under this subsection.



241           (4) The department of elementary and secondary  
242 education shall provide for a program evaluation regarding  
243 the success and impact of the pilot program upon completion  
244 of the first year of the pilot program. The department  
245 shall report the results of such evaluation to the general  
246 assembly.

247           (5) The department shall make the curriculum framework  
248 available to all school districts beginning in the 2027-2028  
249 school year. All school districts shall participate in  
250 black history week by the 2028-2029 school year.

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