

SENATE BILL NO. 983

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR WILLIAMS.

4284S.01H

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary

AN ACT

To repeal section 161.700, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to
holocaust education.

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

Section A. Section 161.700, RSMo, is repealed and two new
2 sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections
3 161.700 and 161.701, to read as follows:

161.700. 1. This section shall be known as the
2 "Holocaust Education and Awareness Commission Act".

3 2. There is hereby created a permanent state
4 commission known as the "Holocaust Education and Awareness
5 Commission". The commission shall be housed in the
6 department of elementary and secondary education and shall
7 **[promote implementation of] implement** holocaust education
8 and awareness programs in Missouri **[in order]** to **[encourage**
9 **understanding of] educate elementary and secondary students**
10 **about** the holocaust and discourage bigotry.

11 3. The commission shall be composed of twelve members
12 to be appointed by the governor with advice and consent of
13 the senate. The makeup of the commission shall be:

14 (1) The commissioner of higher education;

15 (2) The commissioner of elementary and secondary
16 education;

17 (3) The president of the University of Missouri
18 system; and

EXPLANATION-Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

19 (4) Nine members of the public, representative of the
20 diverse religious and ethnic heritage groups populating
21 Missouri.

22 4. The holocaust education and awareness commission
23 may receive such funds as appropriated from public moneys or
24 contributed to it by private sources. It may sponsor
25 programs or publications to educate the public about the
26 crimes of genocide in an effort to deter indifference to
27 crimes against humanity and human suffering wherever they
28 occur.

29 5. The term "holocaust" shall be defined as the period
30 from 1933 through 1945 when six million Jews and millions of
31 others were murdered by Nazi Germany and its collaborators
32 as part of a structured, state-sanctioned program of
33 genocide.

34 6. The commission may employ an executive director and
35 such other persons to carry out its functions.

**161.701. 1. For the purposes of this section, the
2 term "holocaust" shall have the same meaning as in section
3 161.700.**

**4 2. To educate students about the holocaust and inspire
5 in students a sense of responsibility to recognize and
6 uphold human value and to prevent future atrocities, the
7 fourth week in January shall be designated as "Holocaust
8 Education Week".**

9 3. Holocaust education week shall include age-
10 appropriate instruction, as determined by each school
11 district. Instruction shall include:

12 (1) Information about the history of and lessons
13 learned from the holocaust;

14 (2) Participation, in person or using technology, in
15 learning projects about the holocaust; and

16 (3) The use of materials developed or approved by the
17 holocaust education and awareness commission.

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