

Second Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 18-0957.01 Jane Ritter x4342

HOUSE BILL 18-1276

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING TEACHING CIVIL GOVERNMENT IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND,**
102 **IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, ESTABLISHING THE HISTORY,**
103 **CULTURE, AND CIVIL GOVERNMENT IN EDUCATION COMMISSION**
104 **TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCLUDE THE HISTORY,**
105 **CULTURE, AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICAN INDIANS,**
106 **HISPANIC AMERICANS, AFRICAN AMERICANS, AND ASIAN**
107 **AMERICANS IN THE TEACHING AND CONTENT STANDARDS FOR**
108 **HISTORY AND CIVICS.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

<http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill mandates funding instruction in public schools of history and civil government of the United States and Colorado, including but not limited to the history, culture, and contributions of American Indians, Hispanic Americans, African Americans, and Asian Americans.

Current law requires school districts to convene community forums to discuss the content standards in history and civil government at least once every 10 years. The bill requires the forums to be held at least every 2 years.

The history, culture, and civil government in education commission is established to make recommendations to the state board of education when the state board performs its scheduled 6-year review of education standards so those standards and programs accurately reflect the history, culture, and civil government of the United States and Colorado, including the contributions and influence of American Indians, Hispanic Americans, African Americans, and Asian Americans.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 22-1-104 as
3 follows:

4 **22-1-104. Teaching of history, culture, and civil government.**

5 ~~(1) The history and civil government of the state of Colorado shall be~~
6 ~~taught in all the public schools of this state.~~

7 ~~(2) In addition,~~ (1) The history and civil government of the
8 United States AND OF THE STATE OF COLORADO, which includes the
9 history, culture, and contributions of minorities, including, but not limited
10 to, ~~the~~ American Indians, ~~the~~ Hispanic Americans, ~~and the~~ African
11 Americans, ~~shall~~ AND ASIAN AMERICANS, MUST be taught in all the public
12 schools of the state.

13 ~~(3) (a)~~ (2) Satisfactory completion of a course on the civil
14 government of the United States and the state of Colorado, ~~which~~
15 ~~includes~~ INCLUDING the subjects described in ~~subsection (2)~~ SUBSECTION
16 (1) of this section, ~~shall be~~ IS a condition of high school graduation in the

1 public schools of this state.

2 ~~(b) The condition of graduation described in paragraph (a) of this~~
3 ~~subsection (3) shall apply only to students entering their first year of high~~
4 ~~school on and after August 6, 2003.~~

5 ~~(4) (3) (a) In an effort to increase civic participation among young~~
6 ~~people, each school district board of education shall convene a~~
7 ~~community forum on a periodic basis, but not less than once every ten~~
8 ~~TWO years, for all interested persons to discuss adopted content standards~~
9 ~~in civics, including the subjects described in subsection (2) SUBSECTION~~
10 ~~(1) of this section. THE HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVIL GOVERNMENT IN~~
11 ~~EDUCATION COMMISSION ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 22-1-104.3 SHALL~~
12 ~~ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN ANY SUCH FORUMS.~~

13 (b) Based upon input from this community forum, each school
14 district board of education shall determine how the subject areas specified
15 in SUBSECTION (1) OF this section are addressed when establishing
16 graduation requirements.

17 ~~(5) (4) (a) In an effort to strengthen the teaching of the history,~~
18 ~~CULTURE, AND CIVIL GOVERNMENT of the state of Colorado and of the~~
19 ~~United States in all public schools of the state in accordance with the~~
20 ~~requirements of this section, the department of education, IN~~
21 ~~CONJUNCTION WITH THE HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVIL GOVERNMENT IN~~
22 ~~EDUCATION COMMISSION ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 22-1-104.3, shall assist~~
23 ~~the school districts of the state in developing and promoting programs for~~
24 ~~elementary and secondary students that engage the students in the process~~
25 ~~of discovery and interpretation of historical topics THE SUBJECTS AND~~
26 ~~TOPICS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.~~

27 (b) The department of education is authorized to accept gifts,

1 grants, and donations in furtherance of the objectives specified in
2 ~~paragraph (a) of this subsection (5)~~ SUBSECTION (4)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

3 (c) It is the intent of the general assembly that the objectives
4 specified in ~~paragraph (a) of this subsection (5)~~ SUBSECTION (4)(a) OF
5 THIS SECTION are ~~to be~~ funded through the state education fund created in
6 section 17 (4) of article IX of the state constitution. The general assembly
7 hereby finds that the development, promotion, and maintenance by the
8 school districts of the state of programs for elementary and secondary
9 students that engage such students in the process of discovery and
10 interpretation of ~~historical topics~~ ~~assists~~ THE SUBJECTS AND TOPICS SET
11 FORTH IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION ASSIST these students in
12 meeting state academic standards and may therefore be funded from
13 ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the state education fund.

14 ~~(6)~~ (5) (a) In an effort to strengthen the teaching of ~~civic education~~
15 HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVIL GOVERNMENT, AS DESCRIBED IN
16 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, in all public schools of the state in
17 accordance with the requirements of this section, the department of
18 education, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVIL
19 GOVERNMENT IN EDUCATION COMMISSION ESTABLISHED IN SECTION
20 22-1-104.3, shall assist the school districts of the state in developing and
21 promoting programs for elementary and secondary students that address
22 the state model content standards for HISTORY AND civics and promote
23 best practices ~~in civic education~~ WHILE ALSO ADDRESSING THE SUBJECTS
24 AND TOPICS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.

25 (b) It is the intent of the general assembly that the objectives
26 specified in this ~~subsection (6)~~ SUBSECTION (5) are ~~to be~~ funded through
27 the state education fund created in section 17 (4) of article IX of the state

1 constitution. The general assembly hereby finds that the development,
2 promotion, and maintenance by the school districts of the state of
3 programs for elementary and secondary students that address the state
4 model content standards for HISTORY AND civics and promote best
5 practices ~~in civic education~~ WHILE ADDRESSING THE SUBJECTS AND TOPICS
6 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION assist these students in
7 meeting state academic standards and may therefore be funded from
8 ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the state education fund.

9 (6) THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL TAKE INTO
10 CONSIDERATION ANY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HISTORY, CULTURE, AND
11 CIVIL GOVERNMENT IN EDUCATION COMMISSION ESTABLISHED IN SECTION
12 22-1-104.3 WHEN PERFORMING ITS SIX-YEAR REVIEW OF THE STATE'S
13 EDUCATION STANDARDS PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-7-1005 (6).

14 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-1-104.3 as
15 follows:

16 **22-1-104.3. History, culture, and civil government in education**
17 **commission - established - membership - duties.** (1) THERE IS
18 ESTABLISHED THE HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVIL GOVERNMENT IN
19 EDUCATION COMMISSION, REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE
20 "COMMISSION". THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO MAKE
21 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND
22 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
23 REGULAR SIX-YEAR REVIEW OF THE STATE'S EDUCATION STANDARDS AND
24 PROGRAMS PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-7-1005 (6). THE
25 RECOMMENDATIONS MUST SEEK TO FURTHER THE DISCOVERY,
26 INTERPRETATION, AND LEARNING OF THE HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVIL
27 GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND COLORADO, INCLUDING THE

1 CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICAN INDIANS, HISPANIC AMERICANS, AFRICAN
2 AMERICANS, AND ASIAN AMERICANS. THE COMMISSION SHALL WORK
3 COOPERATIVELY AND IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF
4 EDUCATION AND LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS OF EDUCATION AS DESCRIBED IN
5 SECTION 22-1-104.

6 (2) ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 15, 2018, THE GOVERNOR SHALL
7 APPOINT, THROUGH THE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, THE
8 MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION AS SET FORTH IN THIS SUBSECTION (2). THE
9 COMMISSION CONSISTS OF FIFTEEN MEMBERS AND, TO THE EXTENT
10 PRACTICABLE, MUST INCLUDE PERSONS FROM THROUGHOUT THE STATE
11 AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND MUST REFLECT THE ETHNIC
12 DIVERSITY OF THE STATE. A MAJORITY OF THE COMMISSION MEMBERS
13 MUST HAVE EITHER CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE OR EXPERIENCE IN
14 DEVELOPING EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS. THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE
15 COMMISSION IS AS FOLLOWS:

- 16 (a) TWO MEMBERS FROM THE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMUNITY;
- 17 (b) TWO MEMBERS FROM THE LATINO COMMUNITY;
- 18 (c) TWO MEMBERS FROM THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY;
- 19 (d) TWO MEMBERS FROM THE ASIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY;
- 20 (e) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS AN EDUCATORS' UNION;
- 21 (f) ONE MEMBER FROM AN ORGANIZATION THAT REPRESENTS
22 EITHER SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS OR LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS;
- 23 (g) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING HIGHER EDUCATION. ONE
24 MEMBER MUST REPRESENT A LARGE STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
25 EDUCATION, AND ONE MEMBER MUST REPRESENT A SMALLER STATE
26 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.
- 27 (h) TWO MEMBERS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, AS

1 DESIGNATED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, WHO ARE NONVOTING
2 MEMBERS; AND

3 (i) THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
4 ESTABLISHED IN PART 2 OF ARTICLE 80 OF TITLE 24, OR HIS OR HER
5 DESIGNEE, WHO IS A NONVOTING MEMBER.

6 (3) COMMISSION MEMBERS SERVE FOR TERMS OF FOUR YEARS;
7 EXCEPT THAT, OF THE MEMBERS FIRST APPOINTED, TWO MEMBERS
8 APPOINTED PURSUANT TO EACH OF SUBSECTIONS (2)(a), (2)(b), AND (2)(c)
9 OF THIS SECTION AND ONE MEMBER APPOINTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION
10 (2)(d) OF THIS SECTION, AS DESIGNATED BY THE APPOINTING OFFICIALS,
11 SERVE INITIAL TERMS OF TWO YEARS. THE APPOINTING OFFICIALS SHALL
12 FILL ANY VACANCIES ON THE COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF ANY
13 UNEXPIRED TERM.

14 (4) BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER 2018, THE COMMISSION SHALL MEET
15 A MINIMUM OF TWO TIMES PER YEAR AND ADDITIONALLY AS NEEDED IN
16 CONJUNCTION WITH THE COMMUNITY FORUMS ESTABLISHED IN SECTION
17 22-1-104 (3)(a).

18 (5) COMMISSION MEMBERS SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION BUT
19 MAY BE REIMBURSED FOR ACTUAL AND REASONABLE EXPENSES INCURRED
20 IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES.

21 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1005, **amend**
22 (6) as follows:

23 **22-7-1005. Preschool through elementary and secondary**
24 **education - aligned standards - adoption - revisions.** (6) On or before
25 July 1, 2018, and on or before July 1 every six years thereafter, the state
26 board shall review and adopt any appropriate revisions to the preschool
27 through elementary and secondary education standards specified in this

1 section. In adopting revisions, the state board may add or delete one or
2 more of the specific instructional areas based on the needs of the state and
3 changes in national and international academic expectations. In adopting
4 revisions to the standards pursuant to this subsection (6), the state board
5 shall ensure that the standards continue to meet the requirements specified
6 in subsection (3) of this section. IN ADOPTING REVISIONS TO THE
7 STANDARDS RELATED TO HISTORY AND CIVICS, THE STATE BOARD SHALL
8 TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION ANY RECOMMENDATIONS PROVIDED BY THE
9 HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVIL GOVERNMENT IN EDUCATION COMMISSION
10 ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 22-1-104.3.

11 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
12 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
13 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.