

CHAPTER 252

EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HOUSE BILL 20-1336

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Michaelson Jenet and Sirota, Esgar, Baisley, Benavidez, Bird, Buck, Buckner, Buentello, Caraveo, Catlin, Champion, Coleman, Cutter, Duran, Exum, Froelich, Garnett, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Gray, Herod, Hooton, Jackson, Jaquez Lewis, Kennedy, Kipp, Kraft-Tharp, Landgraf, Larson, Liston, Lontine, McCluskie, McKean, McLachlan, Melton, Mullica, Neville, Pelton, Rich, Roberts, Saine, Singer, Snyder, Soper, Sullivan, Tipper, Titone, Valdez A., Valdez D., Van Winkle, Weissman, Will, Williams D., Woodrow, Young, Arndt, Carver, Geitner, Humphrey, Ransom, Sandridge, Wilson, Becker; also SENATOR(S) Fenberg and Hisey, Ginal, Garcia, Bridges, Cooke, Coram, Crowder, Fields, Foote, Gardner, Gonzales, Hansen, Lee, Lundeen, Moreno, Pettersen, Priola, Rodriguez, Scott, Story, Tate, Todd, Williams A., Winter, Danielson, Marble, Smallwood, Woodward, Zenzinger.

AN ACT

CONCERNING REQUIRING THE SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF A COURSE THAT INCLUDES HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES AS A CONDITION OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 22-1-104.7** as follows:

22-1-104.7. Teaching of Holocaust and genocide studies - definitions. (1) As USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(a) "GENOCIDE" MEANS ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ACTS COMMITTED WITH THE INTENT TO DESTROY, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, A NATIONAL, ETHNIC, RACIAL, OR RELIGIOUS GROUP:

(I) KILLING MEMBERS OF A NATIONAL, ETHNIC, RACIAL, OR RELIGIOUS GROUP;

(II) CAUSING SERIOUS BODILY OR MENTAL HARM TO MEMBERS OF A NATIONAL, ETHNIC, RACIAL, OR RELIGIOUS GROUP;

(III) DELIBERATELY INFLECTING ON A NATIONAL, ETHNIC, RACIAL, OR RELIGIOUS GROUP CONDITIONS OF LIFE CALCULATED TO BRING ABOUT ITS PHYSICAL DESTRUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART;

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

(IV) IMPOSING MEASURES INTENDED TO PREVENT BIRTHS WITHIN A NATIONAL, ETHNIC, RACIAL, OR RELIGIOUS GROUP; OR

(V) FORCIBLY TRANSFERRING CHILDREN OF A NATIONAL, ETHNIC, RACIAL, OR RELIGIOUS GROUP TO ANOTHER GROUP.

(b) "HOLOCAUST" MEANS THE SYSTEMATIC, BUREAUCRATIC, STATE-SPONSORED PERSECUTION AND MURDER OF APPROXIMATELY SIX MILLION JEWS AND FIVE MILLION INDIVIDUALS TARGETED FOR THEIR RELIGION, DISABILITY, OR IDENTITY BY THE NAZI REGIME AND ITS COLLABORATORS.

(c) "HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES" MEANS STUDIES ON THE HOLOCAUST, GENOCIDE, AND OTHER ACTS OF MASS VIOLENCE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE.

(2)(a) FOR SCHOOL YEARS BEGINNING ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2023, EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION AND CHARTER SCHOOL SHALL INCORPORATE THE STANDARDS ON HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES DEVELOPED BY THE STATE BOARD PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-7-1005 (2.7) INTO AN EXISTING COURSE THAT IS CURRENTLY A CONDITION OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION.

(b) THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IF THE STANDARDS ARE ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2023.

(3) A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY UTILIZE THE RESOURCE BANK CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-2-127.3 OR OTHER ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS OR MATERIALS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION. ANY PROGRAMS OR MATERIALS USED IN TEACHING HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES MUST REPRESENT BEST PRACTICES AND BE DEVELOPED USING INPUT FROM EXPERTS IN THE AREA OF HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1005, **add** (2.7) as follows:

22-7-1005. Preschool through elementary and secondary education - aligned standards - adoption - revisions. (2.7) (a) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2021, THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT STANDARDS THAT IDENTIFY THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS THAT STUDENTS SHOULD ACQUIRE AS A CONDITION OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RELATED TO HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-1-104.7 (1), INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE.

(b) IN CREATING THE STANDARDS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2.7)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL UTILIZE A STAKEHOLDER PROCESS THAT IS COST-EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT, INCLUDING THE USE OF EXPERTS IN THE COMMUNITY.

(c) THE ADOPTION OF THE STANDARDS IDENTIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2.7) IS CONDITIONAL ON THE RECEIPT OF GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-2-127.3 as follows:

22-2-127.3. Holocaust and genocide studies - resource bank - technical

assistance - definitions. (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(a) "GENOCIDE" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 22-1-104.7 (1)(a).

(b) "HOLOCAUST" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 22-1-104.7 (1)(b).

(c) "HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 22-1-104.7 (1)(c).

(2)(a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CREATE AND MAINTAIN A PUBLICLY AVAILABLE RESOURCE BANK OF MATERIALS PERTAINING TO HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE COURSES AND PROGRAMS. AT A MINIMUM, THE RESOURCE BANK MUST INCLUDE:

(I) SAMPLE ACADEMIC CONTENT STANDARDS FOR HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES;

(II) SAMPLE PROGRAMS OF INSTRUCTION FOR HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES;

(III) SAMPLES OF HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES LEARNING RESOURCES, INCLUDING FIRST-PERSON TESTIMONY;

(IV) SAMPLE MATERIALS FOR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR DEVELOPMENT IN TEACHING HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES; AND

(V) CASE STUDIES ON THE HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE.

(b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ENSURE THAT THE MATERIALS INCLUDED IN THE RESOURCE BANK REPRESENT THE BEST PRACTICES IN TEACHING HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES, AND THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SEEK INPUT FROM EXPERTS IN THE AREA OF HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES IN COMPILING THE MATERIALS.

(c) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ENSURE THAT THE RESOURCE BANK IS AVAILABLE FOR ACCESS BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, BOARDS OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES, AND THE PUBLIC BY JULY 1, 2021.

(3) TO THE EXTENT SUCH RESOURCES AND TOOLS ARE READILY AVAILABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT, THE RESOURCE BANK MAY ALSO:

(a) IDENTIFY EXISTING RESOURCES AND TOOLS THAT PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPERTS IN HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES TO BE PAIRED WITH A TEACHER IN THE CLASSROOM TO CO-TEACH COURSES IN HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES; AND

(b) INCLUDE A LISTING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT ARE INTERESTED IN FINDING EXPERTS WHO WISH TO VOLUNTEER TO CO-TEACH COURSES IN HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES AND A LISTING OF EXPERTS WHO ARE

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING TO CO-TEACH SUCH COURSES.

(4) THE DEPARTMENT MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

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

Approved: July 8, 2020