

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT  
9/20/23

**BILL 3**

LLS NO. 24-0230.01 Chelsea Princell x4335

**INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL**

**Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee**

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**BILL TOPIC:** Ethnic Studies Commission

**DEADLINES:** File by: 9/20/2023

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF THE ETHNIC STUDIES COMMISSION.**

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

**Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee.** The bill creates the ethnic studies commission (commission) in the department of education (department) to establish and maintain an ethnic studies resource bank for Colorado teachers to access lesson plans and teaching materials pertaining to historical events that impact the Asian American and Pacific Islander populations.

The commission consists of at least 8, but not more than 12, members who are chosen by the department through an application

*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing law.*

process.

The bill requires the department to select commission members no later than July 1, 2024, and requires the commission to hold its first meeting no later than July 15, 2024.

The bill requires the commission to meet at least once annually.

The bill requires the commission to establish an ethnic studies resource bank no later than August 31, 2024.

The bill allows Colorado teachers to submit lesson plans and teaching materials that the commission may add to the ethnic studies resource bank.

After September 1, 2024, the bill requires the commission to review and update resources in the ethnic studies resource bank.

The bill encourages teachers who utilize the ethnic studies resource bank to report to the department the resources they used. The commission may use this information to improve and grow the ethnic studies resource bank.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** article 108 to  
3 title 22 as follows:

4 **ARTICLE 108**

5 **Ethnic Studies Commission**

6 **22-108-101. Ethnic studies commission - creation -**  
7 **membership - duties - definitions.** (1) AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE 108,  
8 UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

9 (a) "COMMISSION" MEANS THE ETHNIC STUDIES COMMISSION  
10 CREATED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

11 (b) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
12 CREATED AND EXISTING PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-1-115.

13 (2) THE ETHNIC STUDIES COMMISSION IS CREATED IN THE  
14 DEPARTMENT TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN AN ETHNIC STUDIES RESOURCE  
15 BANK FOR COLORADO TEACHERS TO ACCESS LESSON PLANS AND OTHER  
16 TEACHING MATERIALS CONCERNING THE AMACHE INTERNMENT CAMP,

1 *KOREMATSU V. UNITED STATES*, 323 U.S. 214 (1944), AND OTHER  
2 HISTORICAL EVENTS AND ISSUES CONCERNING ASIAN AMERICAN AND  
3 PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITIES.

4 (3) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

5 (a) AT LEAST TWO BUT NOT MORE THAN THREE COLORADO PUBLIC  
6 SCHOOL TEACHERS;

7 (b) AT LEAST TWO BUT NOT MORE THAN THREE COLORADO PUBLIC  
8 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS;

9 (c) AT LEAST TWO BUT NOT MORE THAN THREE DEPARTMENT  
10 EMPLOYEES WITH EXPERIENCE CREATING SCHOOL CURRICULUM; AND

11 (d) AT LEAST TWO BUT NOT MORE THAN THREE REPRESENTATIVES  
12 OF A COLORADO-BASED ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER  
13 ORGANIZATION.

14 (4) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SELECT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE  
15 COMMISSION BASED ON AN APPLICATION PROCESS ESTABLISHED AND  
16 CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL FILL ANY  
17 VACANCY ON THE COMMISSION PURSUANT TO THE APPLICATION PROCESS.

18 (5) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SELECT COMMISSION MEMBERS NO  
19 LATER THAN JULY 1, 2024.

20 (6) THE COMMISSION SHALL HOLD ITS FIRST MEETING NO LATER  
21 THAN JULY 15, 2024.

22 (7) ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 31, 2024, THE COMMISSION SHALL  
23 ESTABLISH AN ETHNIC STUDIES RESOURCE BANK OF LESSON PLANS AND  
24 MATERIALS THAT COLORADO TEACHERS MAY ACCESS TO ASSIST WITH  
25 INSTRUCTION ON HISTORICAL EVENTS CONCERNING ASIAN AMERICAN AND  
26 PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING LESSON PLANS ABOUT THE  
27 AMACHE INTERNMENT CAMP AND THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT

1 CASE *KOREMATSU V. UNITED STATES*, 323 U.S. 214 (1944).

2 (8) AFTER SEPTEMBER 1, 2024, THE COMMISSION SHALL:

3 (a) UPDATE AND ADD NEW RESOURCES TO THE ETHNIC STUDIES  
4 RESOURCE BANK AS NECESSARY;

5 (b) REVIEW RESOURCES AND MATERIALS SUBMITTED BY  
6 COLORADO TEACHERS AND DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT TO INCLUDE THE  
7 SUBMITTED RESOURCES IN THE ETHNIC STUDIES RESOURCE BANK; AND

8 (c) RECORD THE NUMBER OF TEACHERS WHO UTILIZE THE ETHNIC  
9 STUDIES RESOURCE BANK AND WHICH RESOURCES THEY USED DURING THE  
10 MOST RECENT SCHOOL YEAR.

11 (9) COLORADO TEACHERS MAY SUBMIT RELEVANT MATERIALS AND  
12 LESSON PLANS TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE COMMISSION TO CONSIDER  
13 ADDING TO THE ETHNIC STUDIES RESOURCE BANK. IF THE COMMISSION  
14 DETERMINES THE SUBMITTED MATERIALS ARE SUITABLE FOR THE ETHNIC  
15 STUDIES RESOURCE BANK, THE COMMISSION MAY ADD THE SUBMITTED  
16 MATERIALS TO THE RESOURCE BANK.

17 (10) THE COMMISSION SHALL MEET AT LEAST ONCE ANNUALLY,  
18 AND ADDITIONALLY AS NECESSARY, TO FULFILL THE COMMISSION'S DUTIES  
19 AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

20 (11) COLORADO TEACHERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO REPORT TO THE  
21 DEPARTMENT, IN THE MANNER PRESCRIBED BY THE DEPARTMENT, WHAT  
22 TEACHING MATERIALS AND LESSON PLANS THE TEACHER USED FROM THE  
23 ETHNIC STUDIES RESOURCE BANK. THE COMMISSION MAY USE THE  
24 INFORMATION REPORTED TO IMPROVE AND GROW THE ETHNIC STUDIES  
25 RESOURCE BANK.

26 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,

- 1 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
- 2 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.