

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 798

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUPLESSIS

CURRICULA: Prohibits state content standards and textbooks and other instructional materials that limit or restrict the teaching of African American history

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:2119 and 3996(B)(67), relative to education; to prohibit the State Board
3 of Elementary and Secondary Education from approving state content standards that
4 limit or restrict the teaching of African American history; to prohibit public school
5 governing authorities from using curriculum, content, or methodology or adopting
6 textbooks or instructional materials that limit or restrict the teaching of African
7 American history; to provide for enforcement; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:2119 and 3996(B)(67) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §2119. African American history; content standards, curriculum, content,
11 methodology, textbooks

12 A. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary:

13 (1) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall not
14 approve any content standards that limit or restrict the teaching of African American
15 history.

16 (2) No public school governing shall develop or implement any curriculum,
17 content, or methodology or adopt any textbook or other instructional material that
18 limits or restricts the teaching of African American history.

19 B. Any person may commence a suit in the district court for the parish in
20 which an action in violation of Subsection A of this Section occurred for the issuance

1 of a writ of mandamus or injunctive or declaratory relief to require compliance with
2 the provisions of this Act, together with reasonable attorney fees and costs.

3 * * *

4 §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

5 * * *

6 B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and
7 except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a
8 charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this
9 Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be
10 exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are
11 applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for
12 the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

13 * * *

14 (67) Prohibition against any curriculum, content, or methodology or any
15 textbook or other instructional material that limits or restricts the teaching of African
16 American history, R.S. 17:2119.

17 * * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 798 Original

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Duplessis

Abstract: Prohibits state content standards and curriculum, content, methodology, and textbooks that limit or restrict the teaching of African American history.

Present law requires the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to develop state content standards for required subjects. Proposed law retains present law but prohibits BESE from approving standards that limit or restrict the teaching of African American history.

Present law authorizes public school governing authorities to develop and implement curriculum, content, and methodology other than curriculum, content, and methodology recommended by the state Dept. of Education or BESE. Proposed law retains present law but prohibits public school governing authorities from using any curriculum, content, or methodology that limits or restricts the teaching of African American history.

Present law grants public school governing authorities the authority to adopt textbooks and other instructional materials. Proposed law retains present law but prohibits public school governing authorities from adopting textbooks or instructional materials that limit or restrict the teaching of African American history.

Proposed law authorizes any person to commence a suit in the district court for the parish in which an action in violation of proposed law occurred for the issuance of a writ of mandamus or injunctive or declaratory relief to require compliance with proposed law together with reasonable attorney fees and costs.

Proposed law is applicable to all public schools, including charter schools.

(Adds R.S. 17:2119 and 3996(B)(67))