

STORAGE NAME: h0701a.edk

DATE: April 6, 1998

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION K-12
BILL RESEARCH & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**

BILL #: HB 701

RELATING TO: Education

SPONSOR(S): Representative Bush

COMPANION BILL(S): SB 656 (similar)

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:

- (1) EDUCATION K-12 YEAS 11 NAYS 0
 - (2) GOVERNMENTAL RULES & REGULATIONS
 - (3) EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS
 - (4)
 - (5)
-

I. SUMMARY:

The bill states that school districts are encouraged to provide instruction in the history of labor in this country and state, including the historical legacy of labor as given by each successive generation.

II. SUBSTANTIVE RESEARCH:

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

Section 233.061, F.S., requires that the following topics be part of instruction in public schools in this state:

- content of the Declaration of Independence
- arguments in support of adopting our republican form of government
- essentials of the U.S. Constitution
- flag education, including the proper flag display and flag salute
- elements of civil government which must include the primary functions of and interrelationships between the Federal Government, the state, and its counties, municipalities, school districts, and special districts
- history of the Holocaust
- history of African Americans
- elementary principles of agriculture
- true effects of all alcoholic and intoxicating liquors, beverages, and narcotics upon the human body and mind
- kindness to animals
- history of the state
- conservation of natural resources
- comprehensive health education
- other subjects and courses as prescribed by law or rule

Section 233.0612, F.S., created in 1997 (chapter law 97-190), provides a list of topics that school districts are authorized to offer students. The topics include:

- character development and law education
- the objective study of the Bible and religion
- traffic education
- free enterprise and consumer education
- programs to encourage patriotism and greater respect for country
- drug abuse resistance education
- comprehensive health education
- care of nursing home patients
- instruction in acquired immune deficiency syndrome
- voting instruction, including the use of county voting machines
- before-school and after-school programs

According to the Department of Education, "the social and political consequences of industrialization and urbanization in the United States after 1880 to the present day" is currently required by the *Sunshine State Standards: Social Studies 1996* to be integrated into the U.S. History course required for graduation. A student is required to demonstrate achievement of this "benchmark" through knowledge of the following:

- child labor, working conditions, and the rise of organized labor;
- the impact of immigration on the labor supply and the movement to organize workers;
- the impact of industrialization, urbanization, and immigration on American society; and
- the social transformation that took place in the 1920's and 1930's, including labor strife.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The bill states that school districts are encouraged to provide instruction in the history of labor in this country and state, including the historical legacy of labor as given by each successive generation.

C. APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES:

1. Less Government:

a. Does the bill create, increase or reduce, either directly or indirectly:

(1) any authority to make rules or adjudicate disputes?

N/A

(2) any new responsibilities, obligations or work for other governmental or private organizations or individuals?

N/A

(3) any entitlement to a government service or benefit?

N/A

b. If an agency or program is eliminated or reduced:

(1) what responsibilities, costs and powers are passed on to another program, agency, level of government, or private entity?

N/A

(2) what is the cost of such responsibility at the new level/agency?

N/A

(3) how is the new agency accountable to the people governed?

N/A

2. Lower Taxes:

a. Does the bill increase anyone's taxes?

N/A

b. Does the bill require or authorize an increase in any fees?

N/A

c. Does the bill reduce total taxes, both rates and revenues?

N/A

d. Does the bill reduce total fees, both rates and revenues?

N/A

- e. Does the bill authorize any fee or tax increase by any local government?

N/A

3. Personal Responsibility:

- a. Does the bill reduce or eliminate an entitlement to government services or subsidy?

N/A

- b. Do the beneficiaries of the legislation directly pay any portion of the cost of implementation and operation?

N/A

4. Individual Freedom:

- a. Does the bill increase the allowable options of individuals or private organizations/associations to conduct their own affairs?

N/A

- b. Does the bill prohibit, or create new government interference with, any presently lawful activity?

N/A

5. Family Empowerment:

- a. If the bill purports to provide services to families or children:

- (1) Who evaluates the family's needs?

N/A

- (2) Who makes the decisions?

N/A

- (3) Are private alternatives permitted?

N/A

- (4) Are families required to participate in a program?

N/A

- (5) Are families penalized for not participating in a program?

N/A

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b. Does the bill directly affect the legal rights and obligations between family members?

N/A

c. If the bill creates or changes a program providing services to families or children, in which of the following does the bill vest control of the program, either through direct participation or appointment authority:

(1) parents and guardians?

N/A

(2) service providers?

N/A

(3) government employees/agencies?

N/A

D. STATUTE(S) AFFECTED:

N/A

E. SECTION-BY-SECTION RESEARCH:

Section 1. Amends s. 233.061, F.S., relating to required instruction, encouraging school districts to provide instruction in the history of labor.

Section 2. Provides an effective date of July 1, 1997.

III. FISCAL RESEARCH & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE AGENCIES/STATE FUNDS:

1. Non-recurring Effects:

N/A

2. Recurring Effects:

N/A

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

N/A

4. Total Revenues and Expenditures:

N/A

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AS A WHOLE:

1. Non-recurring Effects:

N/A

2. Recurring Effects:

N/A

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

N/A

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

1. Direct Private Sector Costs:

N/A

2. Direct Private Sector Benefits:

N/A

3. Effects on Competition, Private Enterprise and Employment Markets:

N/A

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

N/A

IV. CONSEQUENCES OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 18 OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION:

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

This bill does not require counties or municipalities to expend funds or to take an action requiring the expenditure of funds.

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

This bill does not reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate.

C. REDUCTION OF STATE TAX SHARED WITH COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:

This bill does not reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

V. COMMENTS:

The bill amends s. 233.061, F.S., relating to required instruction. Because the bill *encourages*, rather than *requires*, school districts to teach the history of labor, it would be more appropriate to add the topic to the list of authorized courses in s. 233.0612, F.S.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 1997. A technical amendment should be offered to provide an effective date of July 1 of the year in which enacted.

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VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

On April 6, 1998, HB 701 passed unanimously out of the House Education K-12 Committee with the following amendment:

Amendment #1 by Representative Andrews:

The amendment adds the instruction encouraged by the bill to the list of authorized courses included in s. 233.0612, F.S., rather than to s. 233.061, F.S., relating to required instruction. The amendment also provides an effective date of July 1 of the year in which enacted, rather than July 1, 1997.

VII. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION K-12:

Prepared by:

Legislative Research Director:

Molly A. Jones

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