

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to Holocaust education; amending s.
 3 1003.42, F.S.; including the study of a specified
 4 policy against anti-Semitism in specified instruction;
 5 providing school district and Department of Education
 6 requirements relating to such instruction; authorizing
 7 the department to work with certain entities for
 8 specified purposes relating to required instruction;
 9 providing an effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13 Section 1. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section
 14 1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

15 1003.42 Required instruction.—

16 (2) Members of the instructional staff of the public
 17 schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education
 18 and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and
 19 faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the
 20 highest standards for professionalism and historical accuracy,
 21 following the prescribed courses of study, and employing
 22 approved methods of instruction, the following:

23 (g) The history of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the
 24 systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other
 25 groups by Nazi Germany, a watershed event in the history of

26 | humanity, to be taught in a manner that leads to an
27 | investigation of human behavior, an understanding of the
28 | ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping, and an
29 | examination of what it means to be a responsible and respectful
30 | person, for the purposes of encouraging tolerance of diversity
31 | in a pluralistic society and for nurturing and protecting
32 | democratic values and institutions, including the policy against
33 | anti-Semitism, as described in s. 1000.05(7). Each school
34 | district must annually certify and provide evidence to the
35 | department, in a manner prescribed by the department, that the
36 | requirements of this paragraph are met. The department shall
37 | prepare and offer curriculum standards for the instruction
38 | required by this paragraph and may work with the Commissioner of
39 | Education's Task Force on Holocaust Education, the Florida
40 | Holocaust Museum, and other state or nationally recognized
41 | Holocaust educational organizations to develop grade-appropriate
42 | curricula, training for instructional personnel, and classroom
43 | resources for the instruction required by this paragraph.

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45 | The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards
46 | and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection. A
47 | character development program that incorporates the values of
48 | the recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is
49 | offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or
50 | other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness

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51 | initiative meets the requirements of paragraphs (s) and (t).
52 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.