

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to Holocaust education; amending s.  
3 1003.42, F.S.; including certain instruction related  
4 to anti-Semitism in the required instruction relating  
5 to the Holocaust; providing school district and  
6 Department of Education requirements relating to such  
7 instruction; authorizing the department to seek input  
8 from certain entities for specified purposes relating  
9 to such instruction; authorizing the department to  
10 contract with specified entities to develop specified  
11 training and resources relating to such instruction;  
12 designating a certain week as "Holocaust Education  
13 Week;" providing an effective date.

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

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17 Section 1. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section  
18 1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

19 1003.42 Required instruction.—

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

26 approved methods of instruction, the following:

27 (g)1. The history of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the  
28 systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other  
29 groups by Nazi Germany, a watershed event in the history of  
30 humanity, to be taught in a manner that leads to an  
31 investigation of human behavior, an understanding of the  
32 ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping, and an  
33 examination of what it means to be a responsible and respectful  
34 person, for the purposes of encouraging tolerance of diversity  
35 in a pluralistic society and for nurturing and protecting  
36 democratic values and institutions, including the policy,  
37 definition, and historical and current examples of anti-  
38 Semitism, as described in s. 1000.05(7), and the prevention of  
39 anti-Semitism. Each school district must annually certify and  
40 provide evidence to the department, in a manner prescribed by  
41 the department, that the requirements of this paragraph are met.  
42 The department shall prepare and offer standards and curriculum  
43 for the instruction required by this paragraph and may seek  
44 input from the Commissioner of Education's Task Force on  
45 Holocaust Education or from any state or nationally recognized  
46 Holocaust educational organizations. The department may contract  
47 with any state or nationally recognized Holocaust educational  
48 organizations to develop training for instructional personnel  
49 and grade-appropriate classroom resources to support the  
50 developed curriculum.

51           2. The second week in November shall be designated as  
52 "Holocaust Education Week" in this state in recognition that  
53 November is the anniversary of Kristallnacht, widely recognized  
54 as a precipitating event that led to the Holocaust.

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56 The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards  
57 and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection. A  
58 character development program that incorporates the values of  
59 the recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is  
60 offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or  
61 other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness  
62 initiative meets the requirements of paragraphs (s) and (t).

63           Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.