

By Senator Jones

35-01534-22

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to required instruction in the history
3 of African Americans; amending s. 1003.42, F.S.;
4 providing that instructional staff of public schools
5 are encouraged to include the history of local
6 African-American cemeteries in the study of the
7 history of African Americans when practicable;
8 providing an effective date.

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

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

14 1003.42 Required instruction.—

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

22 (h) The history of African Americans, including the history
23 of African peoples before the political conflicts that led to
24 the development of slavery, the passage to America, the
25 enslavement experience, abolition, and the contributions of
26 African Americans to society. Instructional materials shall
27 include the contributions of African Americans to American
28 society. Members of the instructional staff are encouraged to
29 include the history of local African-American cemeteries in the

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30 study of the history of African Americans when practicable.

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32 The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards
33 and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection. A
34 character development program that incorporates the values of
35 the recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is
36 offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or
37 other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness
38 initiative meets the requirements of paragraphs (s) and (t).

39 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.