

SENATE BILL NO. 694

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR BRATTIN.

3980S.02I

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 160, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to public school curriculum and instruction.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 160, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto
2 one new section, to be known as section 160.2550, to read as
3 follows:

160.2550. 1. As used in this section, the term
2 "divisive concepts" shall mean concepts that:

3 (1) One race or sex is inherently superior to another
4 race or sex;

5 (2) The United States is fundamentally racist or
6 sexist;

7 (3) An individual, by virtue of his or her race or
8 sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether
9 consciously or unconsciously;

10 (4) An individual should be discriminated against or
11 receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of his or
12 her race or sex;

13 (5) Members of one race or sex cannot avoid treating
14 others differently with respect to race or sex;

15 (6) An individual's moral character is necessarily
16 determined by his or her race or sex;

17 (7) An individual, by virtue of his or her race or
18 sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past
19 by other members of the same race or sex;

20 (8) Any individual should feel discomfort, guilt,
21 anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on
22 account of his or her race or sex;

23 (9) Meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic
24 are racist or sexist, or were created by a particular race
25 to oppress another race;

26 (10) Promote any form of race or sex stereotyping,
27 including ascribing character traits, values, moral and
28 ethical codes, privileges, status, or beliefs to a race,
29 sex, or an individual because of his or her race or sex; or

30 (11) Promote any form of race or sex scapegoating,
31 including assigning fault, blame, or conscious or
32 unconscious bias to one or more members of a race or sex and
33 including claims that, consciously or unconsciously, any
34 person is inherently racist, sexist, or inclined to oppress
35 others by virtue of their race or sex.

36 2. School districts are prohibited from the following:

37 (1) Teaching about The 1619 Project or any successor
38 theory or concept, critical race theory or any successor
39 theory or concept, any divisive concepts, or any successor
40 concepts or theories substantially similar to The 1619
41 Project or critical race theory;

42 (2) Implementing training or orientation for teachers
43 or staff that involves racial stereotyping or that seeks to
44 assign blame to individuals based on race or sex;

45 (3) Creating projects or assignments that compel
46 students to lobby or engage in political activism on behalf
47 of a specific policy or social issue;

48 (4) Forcing teachers to discuss a current
49 controversial topic of public policy or any particular
50 social issues. If a teacher does choose to teach such
51 topics, the teaching shall be done with an aim to teach the
52 issue from both sides and without showing preference or
53 deference to one perspective;

54 (5) Enforcing policies at schools that prevent
55 students from engaging in and discussing concepts and topics
56 of traditional American history such as founding documents
57 and the founding fathers.

58 3. In adopting the essential knowledge and skills for
59 the social studies curriculum for each grade level from
60 kindergarten through grade twelve, each school district
61 shall adopt essential knowledge and skills that develop each
62 student's civic knowledge, including:

63 (1) An understanding of:

64 (a) The fundamental moral, political, and intellectual
65 foundations of the American experiment in self-government;

66 (b) The history, qualities, traditions, and features
67 of civic engagement in the United States;

68 (c) The structure, function, and processes of
69 government institutions at the federal, state, and local
70 levels;

71 (d) The founding documents of the United States,
72 including:

73 a. The Declaration of Independence;

74 b. The United States Constitution;

75 c. The Federalist Papers, including Essays 10 and 51;

76 d. Excerpts from Alexis de Tocqueville's Democracy in
77 America;

78 e. The transcript of the first Lincoln-Douglas debate;

79 and

80 f. The writings of the founding fathers of the United
81 States; and

82 (e) The history and importance of:

83 a. The federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended;
84 and

85 b. The Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Nineteenth
86 Amendments to the United States Constitution;

87 (2) The ability to:

88 (a) Analyze and determine the reliability of
89 information sources;

90 (b) Formulate and articulate reasoned positions;

91 (c) Understand the manner in which local, state, and
92 federal government works and operates through the use of
93 simulations and models of governmental and democratic
94 processes;

95 (d) Actively listen and engage in civil discourse,
96 including discourse with those with different viewpoints;

97 (e) Responsibly participate as a citizen in a
98 constitutional democracy; and

99 (f) Effectively engage with governmental institutions
100 at the local, state, and federal levels; and

101 (3) An appreciation of:

102 (a) The importance and responsibility of participating
103 in civic life;

104 (b) A commitment to the United States and its form of
105 government; and

106 (c) A commitment to free speech and civil discourse.

107 4. School districts are prohibited from accepting
108 private funding for the purposes of teaching any curriculum
109 substantially similar to critical race theory or The 1619
110 Project.

111 5. The attorney general may investigate school
112 districts to determine compliance with this section. If any
113 school district is determined to have violated the
114 provisions of this section, such district shall have fifty
115 percent of its state aid under chapter 163 withheld, until
116 the district presents evidence to the department of
117 elementary and secondary education that the district is no
118 longer in violation of this section.

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