

S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

9068

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

July 10, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. STIRPE -- read once and referred to the Committee
on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to including contemporary
acts of genocide and slavery in courses of instruction

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEM-
BLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 801 of the education law, as
2 amended by chapter 574 of the laws of 1997, is amended to read as
3 follows:
4 1. In order to promote a spirit of patriotic and civic service and
5 obligation and to foster in the children of the state moral and intel-
6 lectual qualities which are essential in preparing to meet the obli-
7 gations of citizenship in peace or in war, the regents of The University
8 of the State of New York shall prescribe courses of instruction in
9 patriotism, citizenship, and human rights issues, with particular atten-
10 tion to the study of the inhumanity of genocide, slavery (including the
11 freedom trail and underground railroad), the Holocaust, and the mass
12 starvation in Ireland from 1845 to 1850, to be maintained and followed
13 in all the schools of the state. ALL OF THE ACTS SET FORTH IN THIS
14 SUBDIVISION ARE GRIEVOUS ENCROACHMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND DUE TO THE
15 PERSISTENCE OF ATROCITIES SUCH AS GENOCIDE AND SLAVERY, EVEN INTO THE
16 TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY, CONTEMPORARY VIOLATIONS SHALL BE INCLUDED IN SUCH
17 COURSES OF INSTRUCTION IN ADDITION TO THEIR SPECIFIC HISTORICAL COUNTER-
18 PARTS, TO BE MAINTAINED AND FOLLOWED IN ALL THE SCHOOLS OF THE STATE.
19 The boards of education and trustees of the several cities and school
20 districts of the state shall require instruction to be given in such
21 courses, by the teachers employed in the schools therein. All pupils
22 attending such schools, over the age of eight years, shall attend upon
23 such instruction.
24 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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