

# STATE OF NEW YORK

5963

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

March 23, 2023

Introduced by Sens. LIU, CHU, COONEY, THOMAS, GOUNARDES, KAVANAGH, STAVISKY, COMRIE, HOYLMAN-SIGAL -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring public elementary schools and high schools to provide instruction in Asian American history and civic impact

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 801-b  
2 to read as follows:

3 § 801-b. Curricular materials of study in Asian American, Native Hawa-  
4 ian, and Pacific Islander history and civic impact. 1. The board of  
5 regents is authorized and directed to identify and integrate curricular  
6 material that reflects Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific  
7 Islander history. Such material of study shall be required for all  
8 students in each grade of every public elementary school, public middle  
9 school and public high school and should be included as part of the  
10 history or social studies curriculum of such schools. Instruction shall  
11 be provided by the teachers employed in the schools therein. Such  
12 instruction shall include, but shall not be limited to, instruction in  
13 the following:

14 a. The history of diaspora of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and  
15 Pacific Islanders in New York and the Northeast;

16 b. The movements and policies that impacted the Asian American, Native  
17 Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander community in the United States;

18 c. The contributions made by the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and  
19 Pacific Islander communities in government, the arts, humanities,  
20 science and the economic, cultural, social and political development of  
21 the United States;

22 d. The structures and historical events that have limited or harmed  
23 the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander and other histor-

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

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1 ically marginalized communities especially as it pertains to the civil  
2 rights movement; and

3 e. The solidarity between Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific  
4 Islander and other historically marginalized communities especially as  
5 it pertains to the civil rights movement.

6 2. The commissioner, shall provide technical assistance to assist in  
7 the development and integration of curricular materials for such courses  
8 of study which shall be age appropriate and developed according to the  
9 needs and abilities of students at successive grade levels in order to  
10 provide understanding, awareness, skills, information and support to aid  
11 in the knowledge of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander  
12 history and civic impact.

13 3. The commissioner shall make available to all public elementary  
14 schools, middle schools and high schools in the state suitable curric-  
15 ulum materials to aid in the instruction of students in Asian American,  
16 Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander history and civic impact and shall  
17 promulgate rules and regulations governing such courses of study.

18 4. Completion of a history or social studies course that integrates  
19 Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander curricular materi-  
20 al shall constitute an affirmation by students of their commitment to  
21 respect the dignity of all races and peoples and to forever eschew every  
22 form of discrimination in their lives and careers.

23 § 2. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding  
24 the date on which it shall have become a law.