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:

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

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

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

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

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

d. The structures and historical events that have limited or harmed 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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ically marginalized communities especially as it pertains to the civil rights movement; and

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

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

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

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

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