STATE OF NEW YORK

7855--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 9, 2025

Introduced by Sen. LIU -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT in relation to authorizing the commissioner of education to conduct a survey regarding instruction on Asian American, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islander history within the state; and to amend the education law, in relation to establishing an Asian American, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islander history advisory committee; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon the expiration thereof

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

Section 1. (a) The commissioner of education is authorized and directed to conduct a survey regarding instruction on Asian American, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) history within the state. Such survey shall focus on identifying which school districts provide instruction on Asian American, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) history. Such survey shall include as appropriate, questions on how the district is providing such instruction, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) how do the department's learning standards inform the school district's teaching of AANHPI history;

(2) which grade levels are being taught about AANHPI topics;

(3) how much instructional time is devoted to AANHPI topics;

(4) what are the school district's social studies curricula that are used in the district, and who publishes curricula;

(5) what challenges and/or barriers do educators face in incorporating AANHPI topics into the curriculum;

(6) do educators receive any training or professional development regarding AANHPI topics; and

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

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(7) are there assessments or evaluations to measure student understanding of AANHPI topics.

(b) Findings shall include detailed results of the survey, and if needed, recommendations to implement or strengthen such instruction. A report of the findings of such survey shall be delivered to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly, the minority leader of the senate and the minority leader of the assembly the first of January following the effective date of this act or one hundred twenty days after the effective date of this act, whichever is later.

§ 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 805 to read as follows:

§ 805. Asian American, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islander history advisory committee; appointment; powers and duties. 1. The commissioner shall establish an Asian American, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) history advisory committee.

2. (a) The committee shall be comprised of four members, to be appointed as follows:

(i) one member appointed by the governor;

(ii) one member appointed by the temporary president of the senate;

(iii) one member appointed by the speaker of the assembly; and

(iv) one member appointed by the commissioner.

(b) All members appointed to the committee shall be experts in Asian American, Native Hawaiians and/or Pacific Islander studies and/or have a background in educational instruction and or educational administration.

(c) All members of the committee shall be appointed within ninety days of the effective date of this section.

3. Vacancies in the membership of the committee shall be filled in the same manner provided for original appointments.

4. The committee shall meet no less than four times per year.

5. The committee shall have the powers and duties to:

(a) evaluate the extent to which AANHPI content is incorporated into current state learning standards;

(b) evaluate the current ways AANHPI history is taught in classrooms; and

(c) make recommendations on how to include AANHPI content into the state learning standards, key aspects of the subject matter that should be included in the instruction, and ways to integrate AANHPI history into existing courses.

6. The committee shall submit a written report to the commissioner no later than two years after the effective date of this section detailing its findings and recommendations.

7. Committee members shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

8. To effectuate the purposes of this section, the committee may request from any department, board, bureau, commission or other agency of the state, and the same are authorized to provide, such cooperation and assistance, services and data as will enable the committee to properly carry out its functions pursuant to this section.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately; and shall expire and be deemed repealed three years after such effective date.