

Assembly Bill No. 2709

CHAPTER 739

An act to add Section 51221.3 to the Education Code, relating to curriculum.

[Approved by Governor September 20, 2002. Filed with Secretary of State September 20, 2002.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2709, Wyland. Education: curriculum.

Under existing law, the adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, is required to include instruction in the social sciences, as prescribed.

This bill would require that instruction to contain instruction on World War II and the American role in that war. The bill would express the Legislature's intent to encourage that the instruction include a component drawn from personal testimony of American soldiers who were involved in World War II and those men and women who contributed to the war effort on the homefront. The bill would specify that this instruction shall be carried out in a manner that does not result in any new duties or programs being imposed on school districts.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 51221.3 is added to the Education Code, to read:

51221.3. (a) Instruction in the area of social sciences, as required pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 51220, shall include instruction on World War II and the American role in that war. The Legislature encourages that this instruction include, but not be limited to, a component drawn from personal testimony, especially in the form of oral or video history, if available, of American soldiers who were involved in World War II and those men and women who contributed to the war effort on the homefront. The oral histories used as part of the instruction regarding World War II shall exemplify the personal sacrifice and courage of the wide range of ordinary citizens who were called upon to participate. The oral histories shall contain the views and comments of their subjects regarding the reasons for American participation in the war and the actions taken to end the war in the Pacific. These oral histories shall also solicit comments from their subjects regarding the aftermath of the war in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.



(b) This section shall be carried out in a manner that does not result in any new duties or programs being imposed on the school district. In that regard, the Legislature finds and declares that this section does not mandate costs to local agencies or school districts and materials used to comply with this section shall be part of normal curriculum materials purchased by school districts in their normal course of business and purchasing cycles.

