

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 17, 2003
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 17, 2003
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 10, 2003
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 78

**Introduced by Assembly Member Reyes
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Correa, Maddox, and
Samuelian)**

December 23, 2002

An act to add Section 51221.4 to the Education Code, relating to curriculum.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 78, as amended, Reyes. 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 express the encouragement of the Legislature for that instruction to contain instruction on the Vietnam war, including the "Secret War" in Laos, and the role of ~~the Hmong and other~~ Southeast Asians in that war. The bill would additionally express the encouragement of the Legislature that the instruction include a component drawn from personal testimony of ~~the Hmong and other~~ Southeast Asians who were involved in the Vietnam war and those 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.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 51221.4 is added to the Education Code,
2 to read:

3 51221.4. (a) The Legislature encourages instruction in the
4 area of social sciences, as required pursuant to subdivision (b) of
5 Section 51220, which may include instruction on the Vietnam war
6 including the “Secret War” in Laos and the role of ~~the Hmong and~~
7 ~~other~~ Southeast Asians in that war. The Legislature encourages
8 that this instruction include, but not be limited to, a component
9 drawn from personal testimony, especially in the form of oral or
10 video history of ~~Hmong and other~~ Southeast Asians who were
11 involved in the Vietnam war and those men and women who
12 contributed to the war effort on the homefront. The oral histories
13 used as a part of the instruction regarding the role of ~~the Hmong~~
14 ~~and other~~ Southeast Asians in the Vietnam war and the “Secret
15 War” in Laos shall exemplify the personal sacrifice and courage
16 of the wide range of ordinary citizens who were called upon to
17 participate and provide intelligence for the United States. The oral
18 histories shall contain the views and comments of their subjects
19 regarding the reasons for ~~Hmong~~ *their* participation in the war.
20 These oral histories shall also solicit comments from their subjects
21 regarding the aftermath of the war and the immigration of ~~the~~
22 ~~Hmong and other~~ Southeast Asians to the United States.

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

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