

Introduced by Senator Calderon

February 22, 2013

An act to amend Section 51220 of the Education Code, relating to pupil instruction.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 552, as introduced, Calderon. Pupil instruction: social sciences: violence awareness.

Existing law requires the adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, to offer courses in specified areas of instruction, including social sciences.

This bill would provide that instruction in the area of social sciences may include instruction on violence awareness, which may include a component drawn from personal testimony in the form of oral or video histories of individuals who were involved with violence awareness efforts. The bill would specify that it is the intent of the Legislature that the measure be carried out in a manner that does not result in new duties or programs being imposed on a school district.

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 51220 of the Education Code is amended
- 2 to read:
- 3 51220. The adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12,
- 4 inclusive, shall offer courses in the following areas of study:

1 (a) English, including knowledge of and appreciation for
2 literature, language, and composition, and the skills of reading,
3 listening, and speaking.

4 (b) (1) Social sciences, drawing upon the disciplines of
5 anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science,
6 psychology, and sociology, designed to fit the maturity of the
7 pupils. Instruction shall provide a foundation for understanding
8 the history, resources, development, and government of California
9 and the United States of America; instruction in our American
10 legal system, the operation of the juvenile and adult criminal justice
11 systems, and the rights and duties of citizens under the criminal
12 and civil law and the State and Federal Constitutions; the
13 development of the American economic system, including the role
14 of the entrepreneur and labor; the relations of persons to their
15 human and natural environment; eastern and western cultures and
16 civilizations; human rights issues, with particular attention to the
17 study of the inhumanity of genocide, slavery, and the Holocaust,
18 and contemporary issues.

19 (2) *Instruction in the area of social sciences may also include*
20 *instruction on violence awareness, which may include a component*
21 *drawn from personal testimony in the form of oral or video*
22 *histories of individuals who were involved in violence awareness*
23 *efforts that exemplify the economic and cultural effects of violence*
24 *prevention efforts within a city, the state, and the country.*

25 (c) Foreign language or languages, beginning not later than
26 grade 7, designed to develop a facility for understanding, speaking,
27 reading, and writing the particular language.

28 (d) Physical education, with emphasis given to physical activities
29 that are conducive to health and to vigor of body and mind, as
30 required by Section 51222.

31 (e) Science, including the physical and biological aspects, with
32 emphasis on basic concepts, theories, and processes of scientific
33 investigation and on the place of humans in ecological systems,
34 and with appropriate applications of the interrelation and
35 interdependence of the sciences.

36 (f) Mathematics, including instruction designed to develop
37 mathematical understandings, operational skills, and insight into
38 problem-solving procedures.

1 (g) Visual and performing arts, including dance, music, theater,
2 and visual arts, with emphasis upon development of aesthetic
3 appreciation and the skills of creative expression.

4 (h) Applied arts, including instruction in the areas of consumer
5 and homemaking education, industrial arts, general business
6 education, or general agriculture.

7 (i) Career technical education designed and conducted for the
8 purpose of preparing youth for gainful employment in the
9 occupations and in the numbers that are appropriate to the
10 personnel needs of the state and the community served and relevant
11 to the career desires and needs of the pupils.

12 (j) Automobile driver education, designed to develop a
13 knowledge of the provisions of the Vehicle Code and other laws
14 of this state relating to the operation of motor vehicles, a proper
15 acceptance of personal responsibility in traffic, a true appreciation
16 of the causes, seriousness and consequences of traffic accidents,
17 and to develop the knowledge and attitudes necessary for the safe
18 operation of motor vehicles. A course in automobile driver
19 education shall include education in the safe operation of
20 motorcycles.

21 (k) Other studies as may be prescribed by the governing board.

22 SEC. 2. It is the intent of the Legislature that this measure be
23 carried out in a manner that does not result in new duties or
24 programs being imposed on school districts. In this regard, the
25 Legislature finds and declares that this measure does not mandate
26 costs to local agencies or school districts, and that materials used
27 to comply with the provisions of this bill shall be a part of materials
28 purchased in a school district's regular course of business and
29 purchasing cycles.

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