

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 10, 2014

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 1057**

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**Introduced by Senator Corbett**

February 18, 2014

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An act to add Section 60605.84 to the Education Code, relating to pupil curriculum.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1057, as amended, Corbett. Pupil curriculum: history-social science content standards.

Existing law provides for the adoption and modification of academic content standards by the State Board of Education in the subjects of language arts and mathematics in accordance with specified procedures.

This bill would require the state board to adopt history-social science standards in accordance with specified procedures. The bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to convene a diversity advisory group, as specified, and, with input from the diversity advisory group, would require the Superintendent, on or before March 30, 2016, to recommend history-social science content standards to the state board. The bill would require the state board to adopt, reject, or modify the history-social science content standards on or before July 30, 2016. The bill would require the Superintendent and the state board, by October 1, 2016, to report certain information to the Governor and appropriate *policy and fiscal* committees of the Legislature. The bill would express legislative findings and declarations relating to history-social science content standards.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the  
2 following:

3 (a) In contrast to other subject areas, the state's 16-year-old  
4 history-social science content standards were developed in 1998  
5 and have failed to keep up with modern research and scholarship.

6 (b) There is nothing in current law that requires history-social  
7 science content standards to be reviewed and updated.

8 (c) California has long been home to many diverse cultures. As  
9 this diversity has grown, there is a greater need than ever before  
10 for understanding the foundational ideas and philosophy of our  
11 country and the world.

12 (d) California's current ~~K-12~~ *kindergarten to grade 12,*  
13 *inclusive,* history-social science textbooks contain outdated and  
14 inaccurate information, and reflect negatively on members of  
15 several groups, in violation of existing law. Hinduism, for instance,  
16 is portrayed in an inequitable manner, and Hindus are depicted  
17 negatively and as implicitly inferior to other religious groups.

18 (e) Existing law prohibits the State Board of Education from  
19 adopting any instructional materials for use in schools that contain  
20 any matter reflecting adversely upon persons on the basis of race  
21 or ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, nationality, or sexual  
22 orientation.

23 (f) The history-social science content standards ~~must therefore~~  
24 *therefore must* be rectified to address concerns of accuracy,  
25 rigorous scholarship, equality, diversity, religious and cultural  
26 sensitivity, and adherence to existing law. Furthermore, the  
27 standards should be updated to ensure that they are consistent with  
28 changes to other subjects in California's education system.

29 (g) It is the intent of the Legislature that the revised ~~K-12~~  
30 *kindergarten to grade 12, inclusive,* history-social science content  
31 standards must be equitable in their coverage and depiction of any  
32 world religion, ethnicity, race, culture, nationality, gender, sexual  
33 orientation, or disability status and that no group shall be portrayed  
34 negatively or as inferior based on any of these characteristics.

35 (h) It is the intent of the Legislature that the process to update  
36 the ~~K-12~~ *kindergarten to grade 12, inclusive,* history-social science  
37 content standards be fair, transparent, and inclusive.

1 (i) *It is the intent of the Legislature that the diversity advisory*  
2 *group created pursuant to Senate Bill 1057 at the 2013–14 Regular*  
3 *Session must be a body that reflects the diversity of the state,*  
4 *including groups or individuals who represent the perspectives of*  
5 *all major religions, ethnicities, races, cultures, genders, sexual*  
6 *orientations, and disability statuses.*

7 (i)

8 (j) *It is the intent of the Legislature to establish a schedule and*  
9 *process for the review and revision, as necessary, of the state’s*  
10 *history-social science content standards.*

11 SEC. 2. Section 60605.84 is added to the Education Code,  
12 immediately following Section 60605.8, to read:

13 60605.84. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, the state board  
14 shall adopt history-social science content standards pursuant to  
15 the following requirements:

16 (1) The Superintendent, in consultation with the state board,  
17 shall convene a diversity advisory group. The Superintendent shall  
18 ensure that the members of the diversity advisory group include,  
19 but are not limited to, ~~individuals who~~ *all of the following:*

20 (A) *Individuals who are scholars in and represent the*  
21 *perspectives of all major religious, ethnic, racial, and cultural*  
22 ~~groups, individuals who~~ *groups.*

23 (B) *Individuals who represent the perspectives of all major*  
24 *religions, ethnicities, races, cultures, genders, sexual orientations,*  
25 *and disability status, as well as individuals who statuses.*

26 (C) *Individuals who are elementary and secondary history-social*  
27 *science teachers, schoolsite principals, school district or county*  
28 *office of education administrators, and university professors. The*

29 (2) *The Superintendent, with input from the diversity advisory*  
30 *group convened pursuant to paragraph (1), shall recommend*  
31 *history-social science content standards for adoption to the state*  
32 *board.*

33 (2)

34 (3) *The Superintendent shall hold a minimum of two public*  
35 *meetings pursuant to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Article*  
36 *9 (commencing with Section 11120) of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of*  
37 *Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code) in order for the*  
38 *public to provide input on the history-social science content*  
39 *standards that would be recommended pursuant to paragraph (1).*

40 (3)

1 (4) The Superintendent shall present the recommended  
2 history-social science content standards to the state board on or  
3 before March 30, 2016.

4 ~~(4)~~

5 (5) On or before July 30, 2016, the state board shall adopt, reject,  
6 or modify the history-social science content standards presented  
7 by the Superintendent.

8 ~~(5)~~

9 (6) If the state board modifies the history-social science content  
10 standards presented by the Superintendent, the state board shall  
11 provide written reasons for its modifications in a public meeting.  
12 The state board shall adopt its modifications to the history-social  
13 science content standards at a subsequent public meeting held no  
14 later than July 30, 2016. The public meetings required by this  
15 paragraph shall be held pursuant to the Bagley-Keene Open  
16 Meeting Act (Article 9 (commencing with Section 11120) of  
17 Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government  
18 Code).

19 (b) (1) On or before October 1, 2016, the Superintendent and  
20 the state board shall present to the Governor and the appropriate  
21 policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature a schedule and  
22 implementation plan for integrating the history-social science  
23 content standards adopted pursuant to this section into the state  
24 educational system.

25 (2) The requirement for submitting the report required pursuant  
26 to this subdivision is inoperative on October 1, 2020, pursuant to  
27 Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.