

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 30, 2014

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 10, 2014

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 1380**

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**Introduced by Senator Wyland**

February 21, 2014

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An act to amend Section 51226.3 of, and to add ~~Section~~ *Sections 51221.45 and 51226.4* to, the Education Code, relating to pupil instruction.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1380, as amended, Wyland. Pupil instruction: *social science: military conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq: genocide.*

(1) *Existing law requires the adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, to offer courses in certain areas of study, including, among others, social sciences.*

*This bill would provide that the Legislature encourages instruction in social sciences in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, to include instruction on the American military conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, and for that instruction to include a component drawn from personal testimony, as specified.*

~~Existing~~

(2) *Existing law* requires the State Department of Education to incorporate materials relating to civil rights, human rights violations, genocide, slavery, and the Holocaust into publications that provide examples of curriculum resources for teacher use, consistent with the subject frameworks on history and social science and other requirements. Under existing law, the Legislature encourages the incorporation of survivor, rescuer, liberator, and witness testimony into the teaching of human rights, genocide, and the Holocaust. Existing law establishes

the Instructional Quality Commission and requires the commission to, among other things, recommend curriculum frameworks to the State Board of Education.

This bill would require the commission to consider the Armenian Genocide for inclusion in the history-social science curriculum framework when the history-social science curriculum framework is revised as required by law. The bill would specify that the Legislature encourages the incorporation of survivor, rescuer, liberator, and witness oral testimony into the teaching of human rights, the Holocaust, and genocide, including the Armenian, Cambodian, Darfur, and Rwandan genocides. The bill would define oral testimony to mean firsthand accounts of significant historical events presented in a specified format. The bill would provide that the Legislature encourages certain actions relating to the instruction of genocide, including, among others, that content providers and teachers promote pupil analysis of genocides, including the ethnic, religious, and political causes.

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.** *Section 51221.45 is added to the Education Code,*
- 2 *immediately following Section 51221.4, to read:*
- 3     51221.45. (a) *The Legislature encourages the instruction in*
- 4 *social science in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, to include instruction*
- 5 *on the American military conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq,*
- 6 *including Operation Desert Storm.*
- 7     (b) *The Legislature encourages the instruction described in*
- 8 *subdivision (a) to include a component drawn from personal*
- 9 *testimony, especially in the form of oral or video histories of*
- 10 *military veterans who were involved in those conflicts.*
- 11     (c) *Any oral histories used as part of the instruction described*
- 12 *in subdivision (a) should exemplify the personal sacrifice, courage,*
- 13 *and sense of duty of those who were called upon to serve.*
- 14     **SECTION 1.**
- 15     **SEC. 2.** *Section 51226.3 of the Education Code is amended to*
- 16 *read:*
- 17     51226.3. (a) *The department shall incorporate into publications*
- 18 *that provide examples of curriculum resources for teacher use*
- 19 *those materials developed by publishers of nonfiction, trade books,*

1 and primary sources, or other public or private organizations, that  
2 are age-appropriate and consistent with the subject frameworks  
3 on history and social science that deal with civil rights, human  
4 rights violations, genocide, slavery, and the Holocaust.

5 (b) (1) The Legislature encourages the incorporation of survivor,  
6 rescuer, liberator, and witness oral testimony into the teaching of  
7 human rights, the Holocaust, and genocide, including, but not  
8 limited to, the Armenian, Cambodian, Darfur, and Rwandan  
9 genocides.

10 (2) As used in this subdivision, “oral testimony” means the  
11 firsthand accounts of significant historical events presented in a  
12 format that includes, but is not limited to, in-person testimony,  
13 video, or a multimedia option, such as a DVD or an online video.

14 (c) The Legislature encourages all state and local professional  
15 development activities to provide teachers with content background  
16 and resources to assist in teaching about civil rights, human rights  
17 violations, genocide, slavery, and the Holocaust.

18 (d) The Legislature encourages all state and local professional  
19 development activities to provide teachers with content background  
20 and resources to assist in teaching about the Great Irish Famine of  
21 1845–50.

22 (e) When the history-social science curriculum framework is  
23 revised as required by law, the Instructional Quality Commission  
24 shall consider including the Great Irish Famine of 1845–50 and  
25 the Armenian Genocide in the history-social science curriculum  
26 framework.

27 (f) The Model Curriculum for Human Rights and Genocide  
28 adopted by the state board, pursuant to Section 51226, shall be  
29 made available to schools in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, as soon as  
30 funding is available for this purpose. In addition, the department  
31 shall make the curriculum available on its Internet Web site.

32 ~~SEC. 2.~~

33 *SEC. 3.* Section 51226.4 is added to the Education Code, to  
34 read:

35 51226.4. Pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 51226.3, the  
36 Legislature encourages all of the following:

37 (a) Instruction in the origins of genocide as a phenomenon  
38 throughout history that continues to the present day.

39 (b) Content providers and teachers to promote pupil analysis of  
40 genocides, including the ethnic, religious, and political causes.

1 (c) Content providers and teachers to incorporate instructional  
2 materials for pupils that examine the possible means of preventing  
3 and halting genocide policies or interventions by the United  
4 Nations, other groups of nations, or the United States.

5 (d) Examinations of interventions to prevent genocides should  
6 include arguments and evidence for and against intervention, the  
7 role of public support for the intervention, and the possible  
8 consequences of such interventions.