
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5282

AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER STUDIES IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

SUMMARY

Beginning with the 2025-26 school year, this bill (1) requires all local and regional boards of education to include Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) studies in their social studies curriculum and (2) adds AAPI studies to the state's existing required program of instruction for public schools as part of the social studies curriculum. As with other required subject matter areas under existing law, the bill requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to make AAPI curriculum materials available to help boards develop their instructional programs.

The bill requires boards of education, in their AAPI curriculum, to at least include a focus on the history of Asian American and Pacific Islanders in the state, region, and United States, and their contributions (1) towards advancing civil rights from the 19th century to the present day; (2) as individuals, in government, the arts, humanities, and sciences; and (3) as communities, to the economic, cultural, social, and political development of the United States.

In developing and implementing the new AAPI curriculum, the bill allows boards to (1) use existing and appropriate public or private materials, personnel, and resources, including curriculum materials that SBE must make available under the bill and (2) accept gifts, grants, and donations, including in-kind donations. The curriculum must also meet SBE's statewide subject matter content standards.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022, for the new curriculum requirement for boards of education; July 1, 2025 for the addition of AAPI studies to the required program of instruction.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference - APP

Yea 36 Nay 3 (03/11/2022)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 50 Nay 0 (04/07/2022)