



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

Raised Bill No. 314

LCO No. 1851



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES IN THE SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-16b of the 2020 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

4 (a) In the public schools the program of instruction offered shall
5 include at least the following subject matter, as taught by legally
6 qualified teachers, the arts; career education; consumer education;
7 health and safety, including, but not limited to, human growth and
8 development, nutrition, first aid, including cardiopulmonary
9 resuscitation training in accordance with the provisions of section 10-
10 16qq, disease prevention and cancer awareness, including, but not
11 limited to, age and developmentally appropriate instruction in
12 performing self-examinations for the purposes of screening for breast
13 cancer and testicular cancer, community and consumer health, physical,
14 mental and emotional health, including youth suicide prevention,
15 substance abuse prevention, including instruction relating to opioid use

16 and related disorders, safety, which shall include the safe use of social
17 media, as defined in section 9-601, and may include the dangers of gang
18 membership, and accident prevention; language arts, including reading,
19 writing, grammar, speaking and spelling; mathematics; physical
20 education; science, which may include the climate change curriculum
21 described in subsection (d) of this section; social studies, including, but
22 not limited to, citizenship, economics, geography, government, history,
23 [and] Holocaust and genocide education and awareness in accordance
24 with the provisions of section 10-18f, and Native American studies, in
25 accordance with the provisions of section 3 of this act; computer science,
26 including, but not limited to, computer programming instruction; and
27 in addition, on at least the secondary level, one or more world languages
28 and vocational education. For purposes of this subsection, world
29 languages shall include American Sign Language, provided such
30 subject matter is taught by a qualified instructor under the supervision
31 of a teacher who holds a certificate issued by the State Board of
32 Education. For purposes of this subsection, the "arts" means any form of
33 visual or performing arts, which may include, but not be limited to,
34 dance, music, art and theatre.

35 (b) If a local or regional board of education requires its pupils to take
36 a course in a world language, the parent or guardian of a pupil
37 identified as deaf or hard of hearing may request in writing that such
38 pupil be exempted from such requirement and, if such a request is
39 made, such pupil shall be exempt from such requirement.

40 (c) Each local and regional board of education shall on September 1,
41 1982, and annually thereafter at such time and in such manner as the
42 Commissioner of Education shall request, attest to the State Board of
43 Education that such local or regional board of education offers at least
44 the program of instruction required pursuant to this section, and that
45 such program of instruction is planned, ongoing and systematic.

46 (d) The State Board of Education shall make available curriculum
47 materials and such other materials as may assist local and regional
48 boards of education in developing instructional programs pursuant to

49 this section. The State Board of Education, within available
50 appropriations and utilizing available resource materials, shall assist
51 and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (1)
52 Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; (2) the historical
53 events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American
54 history; (4) Puerto Rican history; (5) Native American [history] studies;
55 (6) personal financial management, including, but not limited to,
56 financial literacy as developed in the plan provided under section 10-
57 16pp; (7) training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of
58 automatic external defibrillators; (8) labor history and law, including
59 organized labor, the collective bargaining process, existing legal
60 protections in the workplace, the history and economics of free market
61 capitalism and entrepreneurialism, and the role of labor and capitalism
62 in the development of the American and world economies; (9) climate
63 change consistent with the Next Generation Science Standards; (10)
64 topics approved by the state board upon the request of local or regional
65 boards of education as part of the program of instruction offered
66 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section; and (11) instruction relating to
67 the Safe Haven Act, sections 17a-57 to 17a-61, inclusive. The Department
68 of Energy and Environmental Protection shall be available to each local
69 and regional board of education for the development of curriculum on
70 climate change as described in this subsection.

71 Sec. 2. Section 10-16b of the 2020 supplement to the general statutes,
72 as amended by section 1 of public act 19-12, is repealed and the
73 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

74 (a) In the public schools the program of instruction offered shall
75 include at least the following subject matter, as taught by legally
76 qualified teachers, the arts; career education; consumer education;
77 health and safety, including, but not limited to, human growth and
78 development, nutrition, first aid, including cardiopulmonary
79 resuscitation training in accordance with the provisions of section 10-
80 16qq, disease prevention and cancer awareness, including, but not
81 limited to, age and developmentally appropriate instruction in
82 performing self-examinations for the purposes of screening for breast

83 cancer and testicular cancer, community and consumer health, physical,
84 mental and emotional health, including youth suicide prevention,
85 substance abuse prevention, including instruction relating to opioid use
86 and related disorders, safety, which shall include the safe use of social
87 media, as defined in section 9-601, and may include the dangers of gang
88 membership, and accident prevention; language arts, including reading,
89 writing, grammar, speaking and spelling; mathematics; physical
90 education; science, which may include the climate change curriculum
91 described in subsection (d) of this section; social studies, including, but
92 not limited to, citizenship, economics, geography, government, history,
93 [and] Holocaust and genocide education and awareness in accordance
94 with the provisions of section 10-18f, and Native American studies, in
95 accordance with the provisions of section 3 of this act; African-American
96 and black studies in accordance with the provisions of section 10-16ss;
97 Puerto Rican and Latino studies in accordance with the provisions of
98 section 10-16ss; computer programming instruction; and in addition, on
99 at least the secondary level, one or more world languages; vocational
100 education; and the black and Latino studies course in accordance with
101 the provisions of sections 10-16tt and 10-16uu. For purposes of this
102 subsection, world languages shall include American Sign Language,
103 provided such subject matter is taught by a qualified instructor under
104 the supervision of a teacher who holds a certificate issued by the State
105 Board of Education. For purposes of this subsection, the "arts" means
106 any form of visual or performing arts, which may include, but not be
107 limited to, dance, music, art and theatre.

108 (b) If a local or regional board of education requires its pupils to take
109 a course in a world language, the parent or guardian of a pupil
110 identified as deaf or hard of hearing may request in writing that such
111 pupil be exempted from such requirement and, if such a request is
112 made, such pupil shall be exempt from such requirement.

113 (c) Each local and regional board of education shall on September 1,
114 1982, and annually thereafter at such time and in such manner as the
115 Commissioner of Education shall request, attest to the State Board of
116 Education that such local or regional board of education offers at least

117 the program of instruction required pursuant to this section, and that
118 such program of instruction is planned, ongoing and systematic.

119 (d) The State Board of Education shall make available curriculum
120 materials and such other materials as may assist local and regional
121 boards of education in developing instructional programs pursuant to
122 this section. The State Board of Education, within available
123 appropriations and utilizing available resource materials, shall assist
124 and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (1)
125 Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; (2) the historical
126 events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American
127 and black studies; (4) Puerto Rican and Latino studies; (5) Native
128 American [history] studies; (6) personal financial management,
129 including, but not limited to, financial literacy as developed in the plan
130 provided under section 10-16pp; (7) training in cardiopulmonary
131 resuscitation and the use of automatic external defibrillators; (8) labor
132 history and law, including organized labor, the collective bargaining
133 process, existing legal protections in the workplace, the history and
134 economics of free market capitalism and entrepreneurialism, and the
135 role of labor and capitalism in the development of the American and
136 world economies; (9) climate change consistent with the Next
137 Generation Science Standards; (10) topics approved by the state board
138 upon the request of local or regional boards of education as part of the
139 program of instruction offered pursuant to subsection (a) of this section;
140 and (11) instruction relating to the Safe Haven Act, sections 17a-57 to
141 17a-61, inclusive. The Department of Energy and Environmental
142 Protection shall be available to each local and regional board of
143 education for the development of curriculum on climate change as
144 described in this subsection.

145 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2020*) (a) For the school year
146 commencing July 1, 2020, and each school year thereafter, each local and
147 regional board of education shall include Native American studies as
148 part of the social studies curriculum for the school district, pursuant to
149 section 10-16b of the general statutes, as amended by this act. In
150 developing and implementing the Native American studies curriculum,

151 the board may utilize the curriculum materials made available by the
152 State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-16b of
153 the general statutes, as amended by this act, or other existing and
154 appropriate public or private materials, personnel and resources,
155 provided such curriculum (1) focuses on the Northeastern Woodland
156 Native American Tribes of Connecticut, and (2) is in accordance with
157 the state-wide subject matter content standards, adopted by the state
158 board pursuant to section 10-4 of the general statutes.

159 (b) A local or regional board of education may accept gifts, grants and
160 donations, including in-kind donations, designated for the development
161 and implementation of the Native American studies curriculum under
162 this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	10-16b
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	10-16b
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To include Native American studies in the social studies curriculum for public schools.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]