

HOUSE BILL 2491

By Clemmons

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4,
Chapter 48 and Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 10,
relative to Holocaust education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 10, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) Each LEA and public charter school shall provide age-appropriate and grade-appropriate instruction to public school students on the history of the Holocaust (1933-1945), which was the systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other groups by Nazi Germany, and a watershed event in the history of humanity. LEAs and public charter schools are encouraged to, if practicable, provide the instruction annually on January 27, International Holocaust Remembrance Day. If January 27 falls on a day when school is not in session, then the LEAs and public charter schools are encouraged, if practicable, to provide the instruction on the last regular school day immediately preceding January 27 of that year.

(b) Each LEA and public charter school shall provide the instruction in a manner that:

(1) Generates an understanding of the causes, course, and effects of the Holocaust that leads to an investigation of human behavior;

(2) Produces an understanding of the ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping; and

(3) Develops dialogue with students on what it means to be a responsible and respectful person, to encourage tolerance of diversity in a pluralistic society, and to nurture and protect democratic values and institutions.

(c) LEAs and public charter schools are encouraged to use resources, materials, and programming available from the Tennessee commission on Holocaust education and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to provide students with age-appropriate and grade-appropriate instruction on the history of the Holocaust.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to the 2022-2023 school year and each school year thereafter.