

SENATE BILL 2508

By Akbari

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
relative to academic standards for social studies.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

Beginning with the next adoption of academic standards in the subject of social studies, the standards recommendation committee shall include events of the Civil Rights Movement during the period from 1954 to 1968 in the committee's final recommendation of academic standards in the subject of social studies for students in grades nine through twelve (9-12), including:

- (1) Jim Crow-era laws, including laws that embodied the "separate but equal" doctrine;
- (2) The leadership, tactics, and strategies of nonviolent resistance to Jim Crow-era laws used by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.;
- (3) The principles of natural rights and natural law that informed the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.;
- (4) Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1960, and 1964; and
- (5) The Voting Rights Act of 1965.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.