
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that genocide is defined
2 as "the deliberate killing of a large number of people from a
3 particular nation or ethnic group, with the aim at destroying
4 that nation or group." Instances of past genocides include the
5 Holocaust, the largest blatant genocide, the Armenian Genocide,
6 the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine, the Rwandan Genocide, and
7 atrocities in Cambodia, Bosnia, Sudan, and Darfur.

8 The legislature further finds that as the number of living
9 Holocaust survivors and eyewitnesses dwindles, Holocaust denial
10 and ignorance are becoming much more prevalent. It is important
11 that stories of survivors of the Holocaust be told to audiences
12 around the globe. Unfortunately, far too many students in the
13 United States grow up without basic knowledge of the events of
14 the Holocaust.

15 The legislature additionally finds that there are alarming
16 lapses in knowledge about the Holocaust throughout the country.
17 A survey released in April 2018 by the Conference on Jewish



1 Material Claims Against Germany shows that Americans are
2 forgetting about the Holocaust or are completely unaware it
3 occurred. For instance, while there were over forty thousand
4 camps and ghettos during the Holocaust, forty-nine per cent of
5 millennials (people born between 1981 and 1996) cannot name one
6 of these camps or ghettos. Thirty-one per cent of Americans
7 believe that two million or fewer Jews were killed in the
8 Holocaust, even though six million Jews and millions of others
9 perished.

10 In order to bridge the gap between the facts of history and
11 what people know, it is imperative that comprehensive Holocaust
12 education is taking place in every secondary school across the
13 country. Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the
14 department of education to develop and implement a Holocaust and
15 genocide curricula.

16 The legislature intends that through this Act, students are
17 educated on the historical existence of the Holocaust, one of
18 the most devastating genocides in historical documentation, and
19 other documented genocides. The legislature further intends
20 that the curriculum developed pursuant to this Act will teach
21 the difference between genocide, conducted through killing and



1 eradication of a group, and cultural genocide, conducted through
2 the dismantling of a people's identity.

3 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
5 and to read as follows:

6 "§302A- Holocaust and genocide; curricula plan; public
7 schools. (a) The department shall develop and, beginning with
8 the 2024-2025 school year, implement a statewide Holocaust and
9 genocide curricula plan for public school students in a grade
10 and age appropriate manner, which shall be implemented within
11 social studies and language arts courses of study.

12 (b) A minimum of six hours of instruction of the Holocaust
13 and genocide curricula between grades eight through twelve shall
14 be required for each student prior to graduation from high
15 school.

16 (c) The Holocaust and genocide curricula shall include, at
17 minimum:

18 (1) An additional unit of instruction studying acts of
19 genocide across the globe, including but not limited
20 to the Holocaust, Armenian Genocide, the Famine-



1 Genocide in Ukraine, the Rwandan Genocide, and
2 atrocities in Cambodia, Bosnia, Sudan, and Darfur;
3 (2) The breadth of the history of the Holocaust, including
4 information on the Third Reich dictatorship; events of
5 the Nazi atrocities of 1933 to 1945, including but not
6 limited to the concentration camp system and
7 persecution of Jews and non-Jews; Jewish and
8 non-Jewish resistance; and post-World War II trials;
9 (3) A discussion of antisemitism, racism, and the
10 abridgement of civil rights by Nazi Germany and its
11 collaborators;
12 (4) Instruction that communicates the connection between
13 nation, ethnic, racial, or religious intolerance, the
14 Holocaust, and the impact of personal responsibility,
15 civic engagement, and societal response within the
16 context of the Holocaust; and
17 (5) Acknowledgement of genocides occurring within a
18 society previously considered an advance society,
19 including scientifically demonstrated steps toward
20 genocide and warning signs of genocide.



1 (d) The Holocaust and genocide curricula shall be taught
2 in a manner that leads to an investigation of human behavior; an
3 understanding of the ramifications of antisemitism leading to
4 prejudice, racism, and stereotyping; and an examination of what
5 it means to be a responsible and respectful person.

6 (e) The department shall establish curriculum guidelines
7 and distribute information about appropriate curriculum
8 materials to each public school and make available in-service
9 training programs based upon instruction provided for and the
10 curriculum guidelines established pursuant to this section.

11 (f) The department shall create and distribute materials
12 and resources to respond to antisemitism, racism, and
13 hate-related topics for teachers to use when either the teacher
14 or a student faces, experiences, or is exposed to antisemitism,
15 racism, or crimes of hate by another student, teacher, parents
16 or guardians of a student, or a guest of a school.

17 (g) Public schools may utilize:

18 (1) Any curriculum that complies with the requirements of
19 this section;



1 (2) Programs made available by the department or from
2 alternative sources if they are deemed consistent with
3 this section; and

4 (3) Any appropriate public or private materials,
5 personnel, and other resources in developing and
6 implementing the program of instruction.

7 (h) The department shall work in consultation with
8 organizations and individuals that provide educational expertise
9 and resources related to the Holocaust, genocide, and human
10 rights violations to develop the curriculum guidelines.

11 (i) The department may accept gifts, grants, and
12 donations, including in-kind donations, from public agencies and
13 private persons to be designated for the development and
14 implementation of the Holocaust and genocide curricula required
15 pursuant to this section.

16 (j) For the purposes of this section:
17 "Genocide" includes any of the following acts committed
18 with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic,
19 racial, or religious group:

20 (1) Killing members of the group;



1 (2) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of
2 the group;

3 (3) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of
4 life calculated to bring about its physical
5 destruction in whole or in part;

6 (4) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within
7 the group; or

8 (5) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another
9 group.

10 "Holocaust" means the systematic, state-sponsored,
11 persecution and murder of six million Jews and the targeting of
12 other groups including Roma and Sinti, political dissidents, gay
13 men, Slavic peoples, and other individuals deemed inferior by
14 the Nazi regime and its collaborators."

15 SECTION 3. The department of education shall submit a
16 report on the progress of developing and implementing the
17 statewide Holocaust and genocide curricula plan pursuant to
18 section 2 of this Act including any findings, recommendations,
19 and proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than
20 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
21 2025.



1 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for
4 the development and implementation of the Holocaust and genocide
5 curricula required pursuant to section 302A- , Hawaii Revised
6 Statutes.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
8 education for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 5. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
10 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
11 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
12 appropriations contained in H.B. No. , will cause the state
13 general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be
14 exceeded by \$ or per cent. In addition, the
15 appropriation contained in this Act will cause the general fund
16 expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be further
17 exceeded by \$ or per cent. The combined total
18 amount of general fund appropriations contained in only these
19 two Acts will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling
20 for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by



1 \$ or per cent. The reasons for exceeding the
2 general fund expenditure ceiling are that:

3 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
4 serve the public interest; and

5 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
6 addressed by this Act.

7 SECTION 6. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
9 provided that section 4 shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

10

INTRODUCED BY: 2 MC
JAN 19 2024



H.B. NO. 2092

Report Title:

Department of Education; Holocaust; Genocide; Curricula;
Appropriation; Expenditure Ceiling

Description:

Requires the department of education to develop and implement a Holocaust and genocide curricula. Appropriates funds.

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