

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 253

BY REPRESENTATIVE HODGES

CURRICULA: Requires classroom instruction regarding the Holocaust for high school students

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:280.1 and 3996(B)(59), relative to required instruction in public schools;
3 to require public school governing authorities to provide instruction relative to the
4 Holocaust to each high school student; to provide for the incorporation of the
5 instruction into an existing required course; to specify requirements relative to the
6 content of the instruction; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:280.1 and 3996(B)(59) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §280.1. The Holocaust; required instruction

10 A. The governing authority of each public high school shall provide
11 classroom instruction regarding the Holocaust. Such instruction shall be integrated
12 into an existing course of study that is a prerequisite to graduation.

13 B. Such instruction shall, at a minimum, do the following:

14 (1) Define terms, including Holocaust, antisemitism, and genocide, that are
15 necessary for students to fully understand the content.

16 (2) Provide background on the history of antisemitism in order to help
17 students understand the role that it played in the Holocaust.

18 (3) Contextualize history in order to help students understand what happened
19 before and after specific events, who was involved, and where the events took place.

20 (4) Translate statistics into personal stories, using survivor and witness
21 testimony when possible.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 253 Original

2020 Regular Session

Hodges

Abstract: Requires classroom instruction on the Holocaust to be provided to high school students.

Proposed law requires the governing authority of each public high school to provide classroom instruction regarding the Holocaust and provides for such instruction to be integrated into an existing course of study that is a prerequisite to graduation. Specifies particular components that must be included in the instruction. Applicable to all public high schools, including charter schools.

(Adds R.S. 17:280.1 and 3996(B)(59))