
DIGEST

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HB 401 Original

2022 Regular Session

Hodges

Abstract: Requires further instruction on American history and civics in public schools.

Present law requires the governing authority of each public high school offering American history and civics as prerequisites to graduation to include specified information regarding the founding principles of the U.S. in such courses. Proposed law retains present law and adds the following to the list of required information in such courses:

- (1) The Declaration of Independence
- (2) The U.S. Constitution.
- (3) The Federalist Papers.
- (4) The Gettysburg Address.
- (5) Comparative discussion of political ideologies, such as communism and totalitarianism, that conflict with the ideology of the U.S.
- (6) National sovereignty.
- (7) The ideas and form of government that make the American experiment unique.

Proposed law requires that information on the following founding principles of the U.S. be taught in grades kindergarten through eight:

- (1) The Creator-endowed unalienable rights of the people.
- (2) Structure of government and separation of powers with checks and balances.
- (3) Rule of law.
- (4) Equal justice under the law.
- (5) Due process.
- (6) Individual rights as set forth in the Bill of Rights.

(7) Individual responsibility.

Proposed law requires public school governing authorities to provide instruction that includes a comparative discussion of political ideologies, such as communism and totalitarianism, that conflict with the ideology of the U.S. to students in grades five through eight.

(Amends R.S. 17:265; Repeals R.S. 17:268)