

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 436

BY REPRESENTATIVE HARRISON

CURRICULA: Requires instruction on the Founding Principles of the U.S. to be integrated into the high school American history course

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:264 and 3996(B)(30), relative to required instruction in public schools; to
3 require certain public school governing authorities to provide instruction on certain
4 aspects of American history; to provide for guidelines pertaining to such instruction;
5 and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. This Act shall be known as the "Founding Principles Act".

8 Section 2. R.S. 17:264 and 3996(B)(30) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §264. The Founding Principles of the United States of America; required instruction

10 A. The governing authority of each public school which offers a course in
11 American history as a prerequisite to graduation shall integrate into such course
12 instruction regarding the Founding Principles of the United States of America.

13 B. Such instruction shall include but need not be limited to providing students
14 with information on the following:

- 15 (1) The Creator-endowed inalienable rights of the people.
- 16 (2) Structure of government, separation of powers with checks and balances.
- 17 (3) Frequent and free elections in a representative government.
- 18 (4) Rule of law.
- 19 (5) Equal justice under the law.
- 20 (6) Private property rights.

- 1 (7) Federalism.
- 2 (8) Due process.
- 3 (9) Individual rights as set forth in the Bill of Rights.
- 4 (10) Individual responsibility.

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6 §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

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8 B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and
9 except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a
10 charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this
11 Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be
12 exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are
13 applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for
14 the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

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16 (30) Instruction on the Founding Principles of the United States of America
17 in American history, R.S. 17:264.

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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)]

Harrison

HB No. 436

Abstract: Requires instruction on the nation's "Founding Principles" to be integrated into the existing required American history course in public schools.

Proposed law requires the governing authority of each public school offering American history as a prerequisite to graduation to integrate into such course instruction on the Founding Principles of the U.S.A. Such instruction shall include but need not be limited to providing students with information on the following:

- (1) The Creator-endowed inalienable rights of the people.
- (2) Structure of government, separation of powers with checks and balances.

- (3) Frequent and free elections in a representative government.
- (4) Rule of law.
- (5) Equal justice under the law.
- (6) Private property rights.
- (7) Federalism.
- (8) Due process.
- (9) Individual rights as set forth in the Bill of Rights.
- (10) Individual responsibility.

Proposed law shall be known as the "Founding Principles Act".

(Adds R.S. 17:264 and 3996(B)(30))