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HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF INNOCENTS HAVE BEEN MASSACRED IN MANY HOLOCAUSTS AND GENOCIDES. IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR TEXAS STUDENTS TO STUDY AND LEARN SO THAT THESE ATROCITIES ARE REPEATED.

89R5984 GP-D By: Menéndez

S.B. No. 735

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

relating to Holocausts and Genocide education and training provided to students enrolled at public schools and public institutions of higher education.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 8, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 8.065 to read as follows:

Sec. 8.065. COLLABORATION WITH HOLOCAUSTS AND GENOCIDE MUSEUMS. Each regional education service center shall on a regular basis collaborate with one or more of the Holocausts and Genocide museums and cultural districts of ethnicities impacted by genocide in this state to expand educator training and classroom education opportunities regarding Holocausts and Genocide education.

SECTION 2. Section 29.9072, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

(a) In this section, "Holocausts and Genocide" has the meaning of the mass slaughter of people. ~~assigned by Section 448.001 [449.001], Government Code.~~

(d) Not later than June 1 of each school year, each school district and open-enrollment charter school shall submit to the agency a report regarding the Holocausts and Genocide Remembrance Week instruction offered by the district or school for that school year under this section. The report must include the activities,



lessons, and instructional materials used for the instruction.

(e) As soon as practicable after June 1 of each school year, the agency shall compile all reports submitted under Subsection (d) for the school year and submit the compiled information to each regional education service center. ~~and the Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission.~~

SECTION 3. Subchapter Z, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.90721 to read as follows:

Sec. 29.90721. HOLOCAUSTS AND GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE WEEK GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) In this section:

~~—— (1) "Advisory commission" means the Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission.~~

(1 ~~2~~) "Commission" means the Texas Historical Commission.

(2 ~~3~~) "Holocausts and Genocide" has the meaning of a mass murder of people, assigned by Section 448.001, Government Code.

(b) From money appropriated for purposes of this section, the commission, ~~in coordination with the advisory commission,~~ shall establish and administer a grant program to provide grants to school districts and museums, centers, and other relevant organizations in this state to assist in the implementation of Holocausts and Genocide Remembrance Week instruction under Section 29.9072. The commission may award a grant for purposes of:

(1) developing optional, age-appropriate lesson plans for classroom teachers who lack relevant subject matter expertise regarding the Holocausts and Genocide;

(2) sponsoring student field trips to the Holocausts and Genocide museums and cultural districts of ethnicities impacted by genocide in this state, with priority given to campuses in urban and



rural districts;

(3) providing training approved by the advisory committee for educators and for administrators who manage professional development and teacher training in each district;

(4) cataloging and expanding relevant audiovisual and digital classroom resources, including resources maintained by Holocausts and Genocide museums and cultural districts of ethnicities impacted by genocide in this state; and

(5) developing, in collaboration with museums and cultural districts of ethnicities impacted by genocide, bilingual curricula to meet the needs of more students in this state and making the curricula available on the advisory commission's Internet website.

(c) The commission, in coordination with the advisory commission, shall adopt rules as necessary to establish and administer the grant program under this section.

SECTION 4. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 61.0767 to read as follows:

Sec. 61.0767. EDUCATOR PREPARATION PILOT PROGRAM TO IMPROVE DELIVERY OF HOLOCAUSTS AND GENOCIDE EDUCATION. (a) The board shall establish a pilot program at institutions of higher education selected by the board to train students enrolled in an educator preparation program to provide more effective instruction related to the history and remembrance of the following but not limited to, Holocausts and Genocides. Instructional and educational material shall include the founding-inspirational documents for movement, leaders, total number of deaths by assaulted parties and aggressors, financiers of the atrocities. Curriculums are to be approved by Texas Education Agency and commission:  
1. 1830-1833 US Government slaughter of 40 million buffalo to starve Native Americans,  
2. 1915-1916 Ottoman Empire genocide of the Armenians,



3. 1917-1923 Russia revolution by the party was renamed "the Russian Communist Party" (Bolsheviks) under Joseph Stalin.
4. 1930-1933 - Ukrainian Holodomor under the Communist Soviet Union, Joseph Stalin.
5. 1941-1945 World War II Jewish Holocaust under the National Socialist German Workers' Party, Adolph Hitler, with Italy, Japan, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia,
6. 1948 Israeli exiling of Palestinians known as the Nakba, the ethnic cleansing of Palestinian Arabs through their violent displacement and dispossession of land, property etc.
7. 1966-1976 The Great Cultural Revolution under Communist China, Mao Zedong,
8. 1975-1979 Cambodian Genocide known as "killing fields" under Communist Cambodian, Pol Pot.

The board may adopt rules as necessary to administer this section.

(b) An institution of higher education selected under this section must have an educator preparation program approved by the State Board for Educator Certification or be affiliated with a program approved by the State Board for Educator Certification.

(c) At least 50 percent of the institutions of higher education selected by the board must be located in an area or likely to graduate educators who will teach in a public school in an area where the applicable school district has demonstrated low participation in Holocausts and Genocide Remembrance Week instruction.

(d) The board shall collaborate with the ~~Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission~~ commission to establish minimum curriculum requirements, guidelines, and procedures necessary for the implementation of the pilot program.

(e) The board shall use any funds appropriated or otherwise made available for purposes of the pilot program and may accept gifts, grants, and donations to fund **all subjects in the** pilot program.

(f) The pilot program shall operate for four full academic years.

(g) An institution of higher education selected for the pilot program shall annually report to the board in the manner



prescribed by the board data and information regarding the operation of the pilot program.

(h) The report required by Subsection (g) must contain, with respect to the preceding academic year:

(1) a description of the manner in which the selected institution complied with the purpose of the pilot program and any difficulties encountered in complying with that purpose, including timelines related to implementing the pilot program;

(2) data regarding the institution's students receiving instruction under the pilot program through an educator preparation program;

(3) information regarding any third-party entities or organizations the institution collaborates with to deliver instruction under the pilot program through an educator preparation program; and

(4) a survey of educator preparation program students and faculty who participated in the pilot program at the institution, including feedback regarding the results of the pilot program and information regarding the marketability and subsequent teaching careers of participating students.

(i) The board shall compile a biennial report based on the data and information received under Subsection (g) regarding the operation of the pilot program and the results of the survey of educator preparation program students and faculty who participated in the pilot program at each of the selected institutions during the preceding biennium. Not later than September 1 of each odd-numbered year, the board shall deliver a copy of the report to



the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the chair of each standing committee of the legislature having primary jurisdiction over higher education.

(j) The biennial report produced by the board before September 1, 2029, must include a recommendation regarding whether the pilot program should be continued, expanded, or terminated.

(k) Before September 1, 2031, the board shall conduct a final survey of educator preparation program students and faculty who participated in the pilot program at the selected institutions at any time during the operation of the program, including feedback regarding the results of the pilot program and information regarding the marketability and teaching careers of participating students. The board shall publish the results of the survey on its Internet website.

(l) The pilot program concludes and this section expires December 1, 2031.

SECTION 5. Section 29.9072, Education Code, as amended by this Act, applies beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

SECTION 6. As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the Texas Historical Commission, ~~in coordination with the Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission,~~ shall establish the grant program required by Section 29.90721, Education Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 7. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall select public institutions of higher education for the pilot program required under Section 61.0767, Education Code, as added by ... this Act, not later than May 1, 2026. SECTION 8. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.