

SENATE BILL No. 420

By Senator Holscher

1-29

1 AN ACT concerning education; relating to curriculum; enacting the
2 Holocaust education act; requiring school districts to provide
3 instruction on Holocaust education and awareness as part of the social
4 studies curriculum for students in grades six through 12.

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6 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

7 Section 1. (a) This section shall be known and may be cited as the
8 Holocaust education act.

9 (b) To provide students with essential knowledge and skills for the
10 social studies curriculum, the state board of education shall develop age
11 and developmentally appropriate curriculum, materials and guidelines to
12 provide students in grades six through 12 with instruction on Holocaust
13 education and awareness, inspire in students a sense of responsibility to
14 recognize and uphold human value and prevent future atrocities.

15 (c) Each school district shall provide instruction to students in grades
16 six through 12 to educate students about the Holocaust, inspire in students
17 a sense of responsibility to recognize and uphold human value and prevent
18 future atrocities. Such instruction may use the curriculum, materials and
19 guidelines developed by the state board of education. Such instruction
20 shall include, but is not limited to:

21 (1) Information providing a historical understanding of the Holocaust
22 that offers context for a discussion of how and why the Holocaust
23 happened;

24 (2) participation, in person or through technology, in learning projects
25 about the Holocaust; and

26 (3) the use of materials developed or supported by the United States
27 Holocaust memorial museum or the midwest center for Holocaust
28 education.

29 (d) As used in this section, "Holocaust" means the systematic, state-
30 sponsored persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi
31 Germany and Nazi collaborators during the period from 1933 through
32 1945. "Holocaust" includes the targeting, oppression and murder of Roma
33 and Sinti people, people with mental or physical disabilities, Polish people,
34 Jehovah's witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, certain people based on
35 sexual orientation or gender identity and political dissidents during this
36 time period for racial, ethnic or nationalist reasons.

1 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
2 publication in the statute book.