

HOUSE BILL No. 2165

By Committee on Education

1-25

1 AN ACT concerning schools; relating to ethnic studies.

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

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Section 1. (a) In order to equip students with the knowledge needed to understand and appreciate the contributions people with diverse backgrounds have made to American history and culture, the state board of education shall authorize and assist in the implementation of programs on teaching ethnic studies for grades seven through 12.

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(b) The state board of education shall develop a curriculum, materials and guidelines that local boards of education and governing authorities of accredited nonpublic schools may use in implementing the program of instruction on ethnic studies.

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(c) The state board of education shall develop state curriculum standards for ethnic studies, for grades seven through 12, within the existing history, social studies or civics curriculum or another appropriate subject-matter curriculum.

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(d) The state board of education shall encourage school districts when selecting text books for history, social studies, civics or other appropriate courses, to select those textbooks which contain substantive information on ethnic studies.

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(e) For the purpose of this section, "ethnic studies" means an interdisciplinary enterprise which acknowledges that race and ethnicity are social and cultural forces in the United States and around the world. "Ethnic studies" includes the perspectives of racial or ethnic groups, reflects narratives and points of view rooted in lived experiences of such groups and recognizes the contributions of specific individuals and national leaders. "Ethnic studies" includes, but is not limited to, the experiences of African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanics, Latinos, Native Americans and other racialized peoples.

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