

By: Coleman

H.B. No. 3205

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to depictions of gender and ethnicity in textbooks used in
3 the public schools.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 31.023(b), Education Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (b) Each textbook on a conforming or nonconforming list
8 must:

9 (1) be free from factual errors; and

10 (2) depict, in any text, illustrations, or
11 photographs, individuals of different genders and ethnicities in a
12 nondiscriminatory manner that:

13 (A) reflects the demographic characteristics of
14 this state; or

15 (B) in the case of a history textbook, reflects
16 the demographic characteristics of the time and place covered by
17 the text.

18 SECTION 2. Section 31.023(b), Education Code, as amended by
19 this Act, applies only to the adoption of a textbook for which the
20 State Board of Education publishes notice of the review and
21 adoption cycle on or after the effective date of this Act. The
22 adoption of a textbook for which the State Board of Education
23 publishes notice of the review and adoption cycle before the
24 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the

1 date the board publishes notice of the review and adoption cycle,
2 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.