

By: J. Johnson of Harris

H.B. No. 3638

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of the African American studies advisory board by the State Board of Education.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 28, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 28.019 to read as follows:

Sec. 28.019. AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES ADVISORY BOARD. (a)

In this section, "board" means the African American studies advisory board.

(b) The State Board of Education shall establish and maintain an African American studies advisory board for the purpose of broadening the content in social studies courses to include citizenship, culture, economics, science, technology, geography, and politics as it relates to the history of African Americans.

(c) The board is composed of 10 academic professionals as follows:

(1) two members appointed by the governor;

(2) two members appointed by the lieutenant governor;

(3) two members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and

(4) four members appointed by the State Board of Education.

(d) Members of the board serve staggered two-year terms, with the terms of five members expiring on December 1 of each year.

1 Members may be reappointed at the end of a term.

2 (e) The members of the State Board of Education shall elect  
3 a presiding officer for the board from among the four members  
4 appointed by the State Board of Education. The board shall hold  
5 meetings at the call of the presiding officer.

6 (f) The board shall:

7 (1) advise and provide recommendations to the State  
8 Board of Education on curriculum related to African American  
9 history and culture; and

10 (2) review, approve, and propose changes to content  
11 contained in social studies textbooks relating to African American  
12 history and culture for kindergarten through grade 12.

13 (g) Not later than December 1 of each year, the board shall  
14 prepare and submit a written report to the governor, the  
15 legislature, and the State Board of Education that includes:

16 (1) a summary of the board's work throughout the year;

17 (2) any information provided to the State Board of  
18 Education under Subsection (f); and

19 (3) recommendations for legislative action.

20 (h) Section 2110.008, Government Code, does not apply to the  
21 advisory board established under this section.

22 SECTION 2. Not later than December 1, 2021, the African  
23 American Studies Advisory Board established under Section 28.019,  
24 Education Code, as added by this Act, shall hold its first meeting.

25 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.