

By: Harris of Anderson

H.B. No. 1607

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to prohibiting certain instruction as part of a course at a public institution of higher education.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter 2, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.982 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.982. CERTAIN INSTRUCTION PROHIBITED. (a) In this section, "institution of higher education" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

(b) An institution of higher education may not require or make part of a course inculcation in the concept that:

(1) one race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex;

(2) an individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously;

(3) an individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of the individual's race or sex;

(4) an individual's moral character, standing, or worth is necessarily determined by the individual's race or sex;

(5) an individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, bears responsibility, blame, or guilt for actions committed by other members of the same race or sex;

1           (6) meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic are  
2 racist or sexist or were created by members of a particular race to  
3 oppress members of another race; or

4           (7) with respect to their relationship to American  
5 values, slavery and racism are anything other than deviations from,  
6 betrayals of, or failures to live up to the authentic founding  
7 principles of the United States, which include liberty and  
8 equality.

9           (c) An institution of higher education that violates this  
10 section is ineligible to receive state funds.

11           (d) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall  
12 adopt rules as necessary to enforce this section.

13           SECTION 2. Section 51.982, Education Code, as added by this  
14 Act, applies beginning with the 2023-2024 academic year.

15           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
19 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.