

SB1601



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

SB1601

Introduced 2/15/2019, by Sen. Elgie R. Sims, Jr.

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/27-21

from Ch. 122, par. 27-21

Amends the School Code. With regard to the required history of the United States course, provides that, beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, the course must also include instruction on the history of Illinois.

LRB101 09554 AXK 54652 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES
ACT MAY REQUIRE
REIMBURSEMENT

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 27-21 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/27-21) (from Ch. 122, par. 27-21)

7 Sec. 27-21. History of United States. History of the United
8 States shall be taught in all public schools and in all other
9 educational institutions in this State supported or
10 maintained, in whole or in part, by public funds. The teaching
11 of history shall have as one of its objectives the imparting to
12 pupils of a comprehensive idea of our democratic form of
13 government and the principles for which our government stands
14 as regards other nations, including the studying of the place
15 of our government in world-wide movements and the leaders
16 thereof, with particular stress upon the basic principles and
17 ideals of our representative form of government. The teaching
18 of history shall include a study of the role and contributions
19 of African Americans and other ethnic groups including but not
20 restricted to Polish, Lithuanian, German, Hungarian, Irish,
21 Bohemian, Russian, Albanian, Italian, Czech, Slovak, French,
22 Scots, Hispanics, Asian Americans, etc., in the history of this
23 country and this State. To reinforce the study of the role and

1 contributions of Hispanics, such curriculum shall include the
2 study of the events related to the forceful removal and illegal
3 deportation of Mexican-American U.S. citizens during the Great
4 Depression. The teaching of history also shall include a study
5 of the role of labor unions and their interaction with
6 government in achieving the goals of a mixed free enterprise
7 system. Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, the teaching
8 of history must also include instruction on the history of
9 Illinois. No pupils shall be graduated from the eighth grade of
10 any public school unless he has received such instruction in
11 the history of the United States and gives evidence of having a
12 comprehensive knowledge thereof.

13 (Source: P.A. 96-629, eff. 1-1-10.)