

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
5 Section 27-21 as follows:

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

7 Sec. 27-21. History of United States.

8 (a) History of the United States shall be taught in all
9 public schools and in all other educational institutions in
10 this State supported or maintained, in whole or in part, by
11 public funds. The teaching of history shall have as one of
12 its objectives the imparting to pupils of a comprehensive
13 idea of our democratic form of government and the principles
14 for which our government stands as regards other nations,
15 including the studying of the place of our government in
16 world-wide movements and the leaders thereof, with particular
17 stress upon the basic principles and ideals of our
18 representative form of government. The teaching of history
19 shall include a study of the role and contributions of
20 African Americans and other ethnic groups including but not
21 restricted to Polish, Lithuanian, German, Hungarian, Irish,
22 Bohemian, Russian, Albanian, Italian, Czech, Slovak, French,
23 Scots, Hispanics, etc., in the history of this country and
24 this State. The teaching of history also shall include a
25 study of the role of labor unions and their interaction with
26 government in achieving the goals of a mixed free enterprise
27 system. No pupils shall be graduated from the eighth grade
28 of any public school unless he has received such instruction
29 in the history of the United States and gives evidence of
30 having a comprehensive knowledge thereof.

31 (b) The History of the United States course required as

1 a prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma under
2 Section 27-22 of this Code must include a unit of instruction
3 on civics.

4 (Source: P.A. 92-27, eff. 7-1-01.)

5 Section 90. The State Mandates Act is amended by adding
6 Section 8.27 as follows:

7 (30 ILCS 805/8.27 new)

8 Sec. 8.27. Exempt mandate. Notwithstanding Sections 6
9 and 8 of this Act, no reimbursement by the State is required
10 for the implementation of any mandate created by this
11 amendatory Act of the 93rd General Assembly.

12 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect on
13 July 1, 2003.