

1-1 By: Creighton S.B. No. 1889
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 12, 2021; March 26, 2021, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Higher Education;
 1-4 April 19, 2021, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; April 19, 2021,
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1889 By: Paxton

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to measures to support public secondary and postsecondary
 1-22 American history and civics education, including the satisfaction
 1-23 of curriculum requirements in American History at institutions of
 1-24 higher education and the establishment of the American History and
 1-25 Civics Project.

1-26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-27 SECTION 1. Section 51.302(b), Education Code, is amended to
 1-28 read as follows:

1-29 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), a college or
 1-30 university receiving state support or state aid from public funds
 1-31 may not grant a baccalaureate degree or a lesser degree or academic
 1-32 certificate to any person unless the person has credit for six
 1-33 semester hours or its equivalent in American History. A student is
 1-34 entitled to submit as much as three semester hours of credit or its
 1-35 equivalent in Texas History in partial satisfaction of this
 1-36 requirement. The college or university shall ensure that a student
 1-37 may satisfy this requirement by successfully completing survey
 1-38 courses that address the major themes of American history from the
 1-39 nation's founding onward. The college or university may determine
 1-40 that a student has satisfied this requirement in whole or part on
 1-41 the basis of credit granted to the student by the college or
 1-42 university for a substantially equivalent course completed at
 1-43 another accredited college or university, or on the basis of the
 1-44 student's successful completion of an advanced standing
 1-45 examination administered on the conditions and under the
 1-46 circumstances common for the college or university's advanced
 1-47 standing examinations. The college or university may grant as much
 1-48 as three semester hours of credit or its equivalent toward
 1-49 satisfaction of this requirement for substantially equivalent work
 1-50 completed by a student in the program of an approved senior R.O.T.C.
 1-51 unit.

1-52 SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
 1-53 amended by adding Section 61.0519 to read as follows:

1-54 Sec. 61.0519. AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS PROJECT. (a) In
 1-55 this section, "project" means the American History and Civics
 1-56 Project.

1-57 (b) The board, in consultation with institutions of higher
 1-58 education, shall establish the American History and Civics Project
 1-59 to:

1-60 (1) strengthen American history and civics education

2-1 at public high schools and institutions of higher education; and
2-2 (2) encourage the development and effective use of
2-3 high-quality digital content and professional development
2-4 materials for use in American history and civics education at
2-5 public high schools and institutions of higher education.

2-6 (c) The board shall convene an expert commission of scholars
2-7 and educators to assist in the creation of the project.

2-8 (d) Using funds appropriated or otherwise available for
2-9 purposes of the project, the board shall award grants to
2-10 individuals with relevant subject matter expertise, school
2-11 districts, or institutions of higher education to recommend and
2-12 develop digital content and professional development materials for
2-13 use in American history and civics education at public high schools
2-14 and institutions of higher education.

2-15 (e) Digital content recommended or developed using a grant
2-16 awarded under Subsection (d) may include interactive and
2-17 audiovisual resources, assignments, and model syllabuses that:

2-18 (1) address the major themes of American history from
2-19 the nation's founding onward; and

2-20 (2) may be used in the delivery of:

2-21 (A) survey courses offered by institutions of
2-22 higher education;

2-23 (B) dual credit or dual enrollment courses
2-24 offered by public high schools or institutions of higher education;
2-25 or

2-26 (C) public high school courses for which students
2-27 may receive credit that satisfies all or part of the requirements
2-28 under Section 51.302(b).

2-29 (f) To encourage the effective use of digital content
2-30 recommended or developed using a grant awarded under Subsection
2-31 (d), the board shall, using funds appropriated or otherwise
2-32 available for purposes of the project, support the establishment of
2-33 a professional development program for individuals who teach one or
2-34 more American history and civics courses, including a dual credit
2-35 or dual enrollment course, at a public high school or institution of
2-36 higher education. The professional development program may include
2-37 an annual statewide conference.

2-38 (g) The board shall include in the state repository of open
2-39 educational resources developed under Section 61.0670 any digital
2-40 content or professional development materials developed using a
2-41 grant awarded under Subsection (d).

2-42 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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