

1-1 By: Campbell, et al. S.B. No. 24
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 5, 2025; March 6, 2025, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education K-16;
 1-4 March 17, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 10, Nays 0; March 17, 2025,
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	X			
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	X			
1-19	X			

1-20 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 24 By: Bettencourt

1-21 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-22 AN ACT

1-23 relating to the inclusion of an understanding of communist regimes
 1-24 and ideologies in the essential knowledge and skills for the social
 1-25 studies curriculum for certain public school students.

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

1-27 SECTION 1. Section 28.002, Education Code, is amended by
 1-28 adding Subsections (h-11) and (h-12) to read as follows:

1-29 (h-11) In adopting the essential knowledge and skills for
 1-30 the social studies curriculum for each grade level from grade 4
 1-31 through grade 12, the State Board of Education shall, as
 1-32 appropriate, adopt essential knowledge and skills that develop each
 1-33 student's understanding of communist regimes and ideologies and
 1-34 include age appropriate and developmentally appropriate
 1-35 instruction with information on:

1-36 (1) the history of and tactics used by communist
 1-37 movements in the United States;

1-38 (2) historical events and atrocities attributable to
 1-39 communist regimes, including:

1-40 (A) the Cultural Revolution and the Great Leap
 1-41 Forward;

1-42 (B) the Holodomor, otherwise known as the
 1-43 Ukrainian Famine;

1-44 (C) the Soviet-era political purge known as the
 1-45 Great Terror;

1-46 (D) the Cambodian genocide under Pol Pot and the
 1-47 Khmer Rouge;

1-48 (E) the origins and policies of the Communist
 1-49 Party of Cuba;

1-50 (F) communist guerrilla movements in Latin
 1-51 America; and

1-52 (G) the oppression and suffering experienced by
 1-53 people living under communist regimes, including mass murder,
 1-54 violent land seizures, show trials, concentration camps, forced
 1-55 labor, poverty, and general economic deterioration;

1-56 (3) a comparative analysis of:

1-57 (A) the ideologies of communism and
 1-58 totalitarianism contrasted with the United States' founding
 1-59 principles of freedom and democracy; and

1-60 (B) collectivist ideologies contrasted with the

2-1 United States' founding principles of individual rights,
2-2 merit-based advancement, and free enterprise;
2-3 (4) modern threats to the United States and its allies
2-4 posed by communist regimes and ideologies;
2-5 (5) common economic, industrial, and political events
2-6 that historically precede communist revolutions;
2-7 (6) the evolution of communist ideologies from
2-8 economic, class-based theories into broader cultural movements
2-9 that divide societies and maintain collective control over
2-10 individual rights;
2-11 (7) common historical and modern methods used to
2-12 spread communist ideologies, including:
2-13 (A) propaganda;
2-14 (B) public shaming tactics;
2-15 (C) censorship; and
2-16 (D) forced conformity; and
2-17 (8) first-person accounts, in the form of in-person,
2-18 video-recorded, or written testimony, from the victims of communist
2-19 regimes.
2-20 (h-12) In adopting the essential knowledge and skills
2-21 required under Subsection (h-11), the State Board of Education:
2-22 (1) shall adopt and publish standards for the required
2-23 instruction;
2-24 (2) shall seek input from:
2-25 (A) victims of communism willing to share their
2-26 first-person accounts; and
2-27 (B) nationally recognized organizations
2-28 dedicated to commemorating victims of communism; and
2-29 (3) may incorporate material from existing
2-30 educational programs that provide instruction on the topic of
2-31 communist regimes and ideologies, if the material meets the
2-32 standards adopted by the State Board of Education under Subdivision
2-33 (1).

2-34 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2026-2027
2-35 school year.

2-36 SECTION 3. Not later than July 31, 2026, the State Board of
2-37 Education shall review and revise, as needed, the essential
2-38 knowledge and skills of the social studies curriculum as required
2-39 by Section 28.002(h-11), Education Code, as added by this Act.

2-40 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-41 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-42 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-43 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-44 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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