

1 AN ACT relating to historical instruction.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 158 IS CREATED TO
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 (1) Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, any world history or world civilization
6 course offered by a public middle or high school that is not an advanced
7 placement course shall include instruction on African history relevant to the time
8 period covered by the course, including but not limited to the following
9 civilizations:

10 (a) The Kingdoms of Kush, Kongo, Punt, Benin, Zulu, Berber, Mutapa, and
11 Zimbabwe; and

12 (b) The Mali, Songhai, Carthage, Ghana, Asante, Ethiopian, Aksumite, and
13 Egyptian Empires.

14 (2) (a) Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, any United States history course
15 offered by a public middle or high school that is not an advanced placement
16 course and includes instruction on the founding of the United States shall
17 also include instruction on Native American culture and history prior to
18 and after the founding of the United States.

19 (b) The Native American instruction required by this subsection shall include
20 but not be limited to instruction on the history and culture of the indigenous
21 peoples of the Eastern Woodlands, Great Basin, Plains, Southwest, Mission
22 Indians, Northwest Coast, Alaska, and Pacific Islands.

23 (3) The department shall collaborate with:

24 (a) The Kentucky Center for African-American Heritage to develop an elective
25 high school course offering in African history; and

26 (b) The Kentucky Native American Heritage Commission to develop an elective
27 high school course offering in Native American history.

1 (4) In accordance with KRS 156.160, the board shall promulgate administrative
2 regulations establishing academic standards for:

3 (a) African history instruction required by subsection (1) of this section
4 developed in collaboration with the Kentucky Center for African-American
5 Heritage; and

6 (b) Native American history instruction required by subsection (2) of this
7 section developed in collaboration with the Kentucky Native American
8 Heritage Commission.

9 (5) The superintendent of each school district shall determine curricula for course
10 offerings pursuant to KRS 160.345 that include the instruction required by
11 subsections (1) and (2) of this section and are aligned with the academic
12 standards required by subsection (4) of this section.

13 (6) The department shall collaborate with the Kentucky Center for African-American
14 Heritage to develop:

15 (a) Recommended curricula for the African history instruction required by
16 subsection (1) of this section that are aligned with the academic standards
17 required by subsection (4)(a) of this section;

18 (b) Historical instruction guidelines that provide direction to public middle and
19 high schools in implementing the academic standards for African history
20 instruction required by subsection (4)(a) of this section; and

21 (c) Professional development materials to prepare public middle and high
22 school instructors to provide the African history instruction described in
23 this section.

24 (7) The department shall collaborate with the Kentucky Native American Heritage
25 Commission to develop:

26 (a) Recommended curricula for the Native American history instruction
27 required by subsection (2) of this section that are aligned with the academic

- 1 standards required by subsection (4)(b) of this section;
- 2 (b) Historical instruction guidelines that provide direction to public middle and
- 3 high schools in implementing the academic standards for Native American
- 4 history instruction required by subsection (4)(b) of this section; and
- 5 (c) Professional development materials to prepare public middle and high
- 6 school instructors to provide the Native American history instruction
- 7 described in this section.