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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 103
135th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Jones and Richardson

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SUMMARY

- Creates the nine-member Ohio Social Studies Task Force which must develop statewide academic standards in social studies for grades K-12 based on the standards published in “American Birthright: The Civics Alliance’s Model K-12 Social Studies Standards.”
- Requires the task force to develop the academic standards with public input and report the standards to the General Assembly.
- Requires General Assembly approval for the standards to take effect.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Ohio Social Studies Task Force

The bill creates the Ohio Social Studies Task Force. The task force consists of nine members, three each appointed by the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives.¹

The purpose of the task force is to develop statewide academic standards in social studies for grades K-12 based on the standards in “American Birthright: The Civics Alliance’s Model K-12 Social Studies Standards,” created by the National Association of Scholars² Additionally, the task force must provide opportunities for public input while developing the standards. Specifically, task force members must provide opportunities for input from the following:

¹ R.C. 3301.0722(A).

² R.C. 3301.0722(A); See also the [American Birthright: The Civics Alliance’s Model K-12 Social Studies Standards](#) accessible at www.civicsalliance.org.

1. Parents of students in grades K-12;
2. Active Ohio classroom teachers, school personnel, and administrators with expertise in social studies.³

Approval and implementation of the academic standards

Under the bill, the standards developed by the task force do not take effect unless approved by the General Assembly by concurrent resolution. To that end, the task force must report its standards to the primary and secondary education committees of both the House of Representatives and the Senate by August 15, 2023. If both the House and Senate committees fail to report the standards, or the General Assembly fails to approve the report within two months, the task force must reconvene and report revised standards.⁴ Once the General Assembly approves the standards, the department must revise the model curriculum, as required under continuing law,⁵ to reflect the standards adopted under this section. Under the bill, approved standards are effective for five years beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.⁶

The bill requires the department to notify and make available to all school districts, community schools, STEM schools, and nonpublic schools that are required to administer the American history and American government end-of-course examinations of the standards developed and adopted under the bill.⁷

Once the social studies standards developed by that task force take effect, the task force dissolves and no longer exists.⁸

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	03-14-23

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³ R.C. 3301.0722(C)(1) and (2).

⁴ R.C. 3301.0722(D)(1) and (2).

⁵ R.C. 3301.079, not in the bill.

⁶ R.C. 3301.0722(D)(2) and (E).

⁷ R.C. 3301.0722(F).

⁸ R.C. 3301.0722(G).