House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 597

January Session, 2025

House Bill No. 7075

House of Representatives, April 8, 2025

The Committee on Education reported through REP. LEEPER of the 132nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF ISLAMIC AND ARAB STUDIES CURRICULUM MATERIAL FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 10-16b of the general statutes, as amended by section 32 of public act 22-80, section 3 of public act 23-21, section 7 of public act 23-150 and section 19 of public act 23-160, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(d) The State Board of Education shall make available curriculum materials and such other materials as may assist local and regional boards of education in developing instructional programs pursuant to this section. The State Board of Education, within available appropriations and utilizing available resource materials, shall assist and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (1) Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; (2) the historical events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American and black studies; (4) Puerto Rican and Latino studies; (5) Native

American studies; (6) Asian American and Pacific Islander studies; (7) personal financial management, including, but not limited to, financial literacy as developed in the plan provided under section 10-16pp; (8) training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automatic external defibrillators; (9) labor history and law, including organized labor, the collective bargaining process, existing legal protections in the workplace, the history and economics of free market capitalism and entrepreneurialism, and the role of labor and capitalism in the development of the American and world economies; (10) climate change consistent with the Next Generation Science Standards; (11) topics approved by the state board upon the request of local or regional boards of education as part of the program of instruction offered pursuant to subsection (a) of this section; **[**and**]** (12) instruction relating to the Safe Haven Act, sections 17a-57 to 17a-61, inclusive; and (13) Islamic and Arab studies. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall be available to each local and regional board of education for the development of curriculum on climate change as described in this subsection.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*July 1, 2025*	10-16b(d)

ED *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill has no fiscal impact. It requires the State Department of Education (SDE) to make Islamic and Arab Studies curriculum available to school districts. It is anticipated that SDE can meet these requirements with existing resources.

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 7075

AN ACT CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF ISLAMIC AND ARAB STUDIES CURRICULUM MATERIAL FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the State Board of Education (SBE), within available appropriations and using available resource materials, to (1) make curriculum materials available to local and regional boards of education on Islamic and Arab studies and (2) encourage them to provide instruction in this area. Boards may use these materials to develop an instructional program for the public schools under their jurisdiction.

The law already requires SBE to make curriculum materials available for various other programs, such as (1) African-American and Black studies, Puerto Rican and Latino studies, Native American studies, and Asian American and Pacific Islander studies; (2) personal financial management; (3) the Holocaust and genocide awareness; and (4) cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automatic external defibrators.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 43 Nay 2 (03/24/2025)