

**HB0627/103326/1**

BY: Ways and Means Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 627

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “**and Young**” and substitute “**Young, Ebersole, and Wilkins**”; in line 2, strike “**History, Culture, and Civics**” and substitute “**Historic, Cultural, and Civic Contributions**”; in lines 3, and 8 and 9, in each instance, strike “History, Culture, and Civics” and substitute “Historic, Cultural, and Civic Contributions”; in line 4, after the first “to” insert “study and”; strike beginning with the second “State” in line 4 down through “Future” in line 8 and substitute “Maryland Higher Education Commission about certain lessons currently taught in public schools; requiring the Commission to study school calendars and make recommendations to the State Board and the General Assembly; requiring the State Board to identify existing courses and materials to be updated into professional development courses under certain circumstances”; in line 12, strike “7–137” and substitute “24–1401 through 24–1405 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 14. Commission on Historic, Cultural, and Civic Contributions in Education””; and in line 14, strike the first “2025” and substitute “2022”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, after line 14, insert:

“Preamble

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland was identified as the fourth most diverse state in the union in the 2020 U.S. Census; and

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland is enriched by a diverse population whose histories, cultures, and contributions have shaped our communities, institutions, and shared identity; and

WHEREAS, An inclusive and comprehensive education is essential to preparing students to thrive in a diverse and interconnected society; and

WHEREAS, The study of history and social contributions should reflect the full breadth of experiences and perspectives that have influenced our State and nation, including those of communities that have been historically underrepresented or marginalized; and

WHEREAS, Providing students with access to diverse narratives fosters critical thinking, cultural awareness, empathy, and a more accurate understanding of our collective past; now, therefore,.”.

On pages 1 through 5, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 18 on page 1 through line 17 on page 5, inclusive, and substitute:

**“SUBTITLE 14. COMMISSION ON HISTORIC, CULTURAL, AND CIVIC CONTRIBUTIONS IN EDUCATION.**

**24-1401.**

**IN THIS SUBTITLE, “COMMISSION” MEANS THE COMMISSION ON HISTORIC, CULTURAL, AND CIVIC CONTRIBUTIONS IN EDUCATION.**

**24-1402.**

**THERE IS A COMMISSION ON HISTORIC, CULTURAL, AND CIVIC CONTRIBUTIONS IN EDUCATION.**

**24-1403.**

THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO ASSIST THE STATE'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS WITH:

(1) PROVIDING STUDENTS AN ACCURATE EDUCATION ON THE HISTORIC ROLES PLAYED BY DIVERSE PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE STATE'S AND THE NATION'S PAST; AND

(2) REMAINING RESPONSIVE TO THE EVOLVING NEEDS OF STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

24-1404.

(A) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, JOINTLY APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE:

(1) NINE MEMBERS, EACH OF WHOM IS AN EXPERT IN ACCURATE INSTRUCTION, EDUCATION, AND CURRICULAR CONTENT IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

(I) AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE;

(II) ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HISTORY AND CULTURE;

(III) HISPANIC AND LATINO AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE;

(Over)

**(IV) THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF MARYLAND'S  
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND THEIR DESCENDANTS;**

**(V) THE HISTORY AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF IMMIGRANTS;**

**(VI) JEWISH AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE;**

**(VII) LGBTQ+ AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE;**

**(VIII) MUSLIM AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE; AND**

**(IX) THE HISTORY AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF WOMEN;**

**(2) SEVEN COMMUNITY MEMBERS, EACH RECOMMENDED BY ONE  
OF THE FOLLOWING GENERAL ASSEMBLY CAUCUSES:**

**(I) THE MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE ASIAN-AMERICAN &  
PACIFIC-ISLANDER CAUCUS;**

**(II) THE LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS OF MARYLAND;**

**(III) THE MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE JEWISH CAUCUS;**

**(IV) THE MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS;**

**(V) THE MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LGBTQ+ CAUCUS;**

**(VI) THE MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE MUSLIM CAUCUS; AND**

**(VII) THE WOMEN LEGISLATORS OF MARYLAND;**

**(3) TWO LICENSED TEACHERS, CURRENTLY TEACHING COURSES THAT INVOLVE SOCIAL STUDIES OR OTHER RELATED HISTORICAL CURRICULA;**

**(4) TWO STUDENTS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN THE STATE;**

**(5) THREE REPRESENTATIVES FROM INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SELECTED AS FOLLOWS:**

**(I) ONE FROM AN INSTITUTION WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND;**

**(II) ONE FROM A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE; AND**

**(III) ONE FROM A HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY IN THE STATE THAT IS A SEPARATE ENTITY FROM THE ENTITY REPRESENTED UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS ITEM; AND**

**(6) ONE CURRENT MEMBER OF THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND TEACHER EDUCATION BOARD, RECOMMENDED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD.**

**(B) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION SHALL REFLECT THE GENDER, RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY OF THE STATE.**

(Over)

(C) (1) EXCEPT FOR THE STUDENT MEMBER, THE TERM OF A MEMBER IS 4 YEARS.

(2) THE TERM OF A STUDENT MEMBER IS 1 YEAR.

(D) THE COMMISSION SHALL ELECT A CHAIR FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS.

(E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE COMMISSION.

(F) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:

(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION; BUT

(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

24-1405.

(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL:

(1) THOROUGHLY STUDY THE COURSE TOPICS, CURRICULUM STANDARDS, CURRICULUM RESOURCES, CURRICULUM UNITS, AND COURSE SYLLABI CURRENTLY BEING USED TO TEACH STUDENTS IN THE STATE AND HOW THEY REPRESENT THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF DIVERSE GROUPS, INCLUDING:

(I) HOW THEY INCORPORATE BOTH THE SHARED AND DISTINCT HISTORIES AND CULTURES ABOUT WHICH COMMISSION MEMBERS HAVE EXPERTISE;

(II) WHETHER SOURCES PRODUCED BY MEMBERS OF A COMMUNITY ARE USED IN LESSONS ABOUT THAT COMMUNITY; AND

(III) THE APPROXIMATE PROPORTION OF OVERALL INSTRUCTIONAL TIME THAT IS DEDICATED TO THE HISTORIC, CULTURAL, AND CIVIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF SPECIFIC DIVERSE GROUPS COMPARED TO OTHER TOPICS; AND

(2) STUDY CURRENT SCHOOL CALENDARS AND REQUIRED HOURS OF INSTRUCTION AND WHETHER THEY ARE DESIGNED TO REFLECT THE TRADITIONS AND CUSTOMS OF ALL MEMBERS OF A COMMUNITY.

(B) (1) AFTER THOROUGHLY STUDYING THE MATERIALS DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(1) OF THIS SECTION, ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2028, AND EVERY 4 YEARS THEREAFTER, THE COMMISSION SHALL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO:

(i) THE STATE BOARD TO UPDATE COURSE TOPICS, CURRICULUM STANDARDS, CURRICULUM RESOURCES, CURRICULUM UNITS, AND COURSE SYLLABI TO MORE ACCURATELY REFLECT, THROUGH EVIDENCE-BASED FACTUAL HISTORY, THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DIVERSE GROUPS; AND

(ii) THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION TO UPDATE TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS TO INCLUDE INSTRUCTION ON TEACHING THE ACCURATE HISTORY OF DIVERSE PEOPLE AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, AND CIVIC LIFE OF THE STATE AND NATION.

(2) IF THE STATE BOARD UPDATES ANY COURSE TOPICS, CURRICULUM STANDARDS, CURRICULUM RESOURCES, CURRICULUM UNITS, OR COURSE SYLLABI IN RESPONSE TO THE COMMISSION'S REPORT, THE STATE BOARD SHALL IDENTIFY EXISTING COURSES AND MATERIALS THAT MAY BE ADAPTED INTO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES TO ASSIST EDUCATORS WITH TEACHING UPDATED LESSONS.

(C) AFTER THOROUGHLY STUDYING SCHOOL CALENDARS AND REQUIRED HOURS OF INSTRUCTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (A)(2) OF THIS SECTION, ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2027, AND EVERY 4 YEARS

THEREAFTER, THE COMMISSION SHALL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON POTENTIAL ADJUSTMENTS THAT WOULD BETTER REFLECT THE CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS OF ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO THE STATE BOARD AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

(D) THE COMMISSION SHALL COMPLETE ANY OTHER TASKS JOINTLY ASSIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Commission on Historic, Cultural, and Civic Contributions in Education, established under § 24-1402 of the Education Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, shall report on or before December 1, 2029, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, on whether the Commission has adequately accomplished its goals and whether the Commission should continue.”.