

# HOUSE BILL 1059

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HB 1323/25 – W&M

6lr3228

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By: **Delegates Valderrama, Bhandari, Chang, Wolek, and Wu**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2026

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 9, 2026

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Department of Education – Asian American History – Professional**  
3 **Development and Library Materials Accurate Instruction**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the ~~State Board of Education to evaluate certain Asian~~  
5 ~~American history training programs for inclusion in the State Department of~~  
6 ~~Education’s continuing professional development program and requiring the~~  
7 ~~Department to publicize these programs; establishing the Asian American History~~  
8 ~~Grant Program to provide expanded access to professional development in Asian~~  
9 ~~American history to educators and to provide funding to school libraries to purchase~~  
10 ~~certain materials;~~ State Department of Education to establish a program designed  
11 to assist with the accurate teaching of Asian American history; requiring the  
12 Department to identify certain courses and materials and make available a certain  
13 professional development course; and generally relating to ~~continuing professional~~  
14 ~~development for educators and library materials on~~ a program assisting with the  
15 accurate teaching of Asian American history.

16 ~~BY adding to~~  
17 ~~Article – Education~~  
18 ~~Section 6-132~~  
19 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~  
20 ~~(2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
22 That the ~~Laws of Maryland read as follows:~~

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



~~Article Education~~~~6-132.~~

~~(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.~~

~~(2) "CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM" MEANS CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCES OR PROGRAMS APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT.~~

~~(3) "PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POINT" MEANS A UNIT USED TO RENEW TEACHER LICENSES EARNED THROUGH COMPLETION OF SPECIFIC PROFESSIONALLY ALIGNED TASKS AND ASSIGNMENTS.~~

~~(B) THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, DIVISION OF EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS SHALL EVALUATE ASIAN AMERICAN HISTORY TRAINING PROGRAMS OFFERED BY THE FOLLOWING ENTITIES FOR INCLUSION IN THE DEPARTMENT'S CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM THROUGH WHICH EDUCATORS EARN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POINTS:~~

~~(1) THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION;~~

~~(2) THE ASIAN AMERICAN EDUCATION PROJECT;~~

~~(3) TEACHER AAPI;~~

~~(4) THE ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER DESI AMERICAN RESOURCE CENTER AT SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY;~~

~~(5) THE SIKH COALITION;~~

~~(6) THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL STUDIES; AND~~

~~(7) THE ASIAN AMERICAN FOUNDATION.~~

~~(C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PUBLICIZE THE AVAILABILITY OF TRAINING PROGRAMS INCLUDED IN THE DEPARTMENT'S CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.~~

~~(D) (1) THERE IS AN ASIAN AMERICAN HISTORY GRANT PROGRAM.~~

~~(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO:~~

1 ~~(I) PROVIDE EXPANDED ACCESS TO PROFESSIONAL~~  
2 ~~DEVELOPMENT IN ASIAN AMERICAN HISTORY TO EDUCATORS; AND~~

3 ~~(II) PROVIDE FUNDING FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIES TO PURCHASE~~  
4 ~~MATERIALS ON ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HISTORY.~~

5 ~~(3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.~~

6 ~~(4) AN ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, OR HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER MAY~~  
7 ~~SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT TO RECEIVE A GRANT OF UP TO~~  
8 ~~\$2,000 TO COVER COSTS RELATED TO OBTAINING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT~~  
9 ~~POINTS THROUGH A PROGRAM DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.~~

10 ~~(5) A SCHOOL LIBRARY MAY SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE~~  
11 ~~DEPARTMENT TO RECEIVE A GRANT OF UP TO \$1,000 PER YEAR TO PURCHASE~~  
12 ~~AGE APPROPRIATE MATERIALS ON ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER~~  
13 ~~HISTORY.~~

14 ~~(6) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2028 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER,~~  
15 ~~THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION~~  
16 ~~OF \$500,000 FOR THE PROGRAM.~~

17 (a) The State Department of Education shall establish a program designed to  
18 assist with the accurate teaching of Asian American history in accordance with this section.

19 (b) (1) The Department shall identify existing courses and materials that can  
20 be adapted into a professional development course on Asian American history for educators  
21 in the State from the following entities:

22 (i) the Smithsonian Institution;

23 (ii) the Asian American Education Project;

24 (iii) Teach AAPI;

25 (iv) the Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Resource Center at San  
26 Diego State University;

27 (v) the Sikh Coalition;

28 (vi) the National Council for Social Studies; and

29 (vii) the Asian American Foundation.

1           (2) Based on the material the Department is able to collect from the entities  
2 described under paragraph (1) of this subsection, and using existing resources, the  
3 Department shall make available a professional development course on Asian American  
4 history by:

5                   (i) developing a course;

6                   (ii) adapting an existing course developed by an entity listed under  
7 paragraph (1) of this subsection; or

8                   (iii) making available an existing course offered by an entity listed  
9 under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

10           (3) A professional development course offered in accordance with this  
11 subsection shall be aligned with the State Board of Education's existing social studies  
12 standards.

13           (c) In the 2026–2027 and 2027–2028 school years, the Department shall identify  
14 age-appropriate materials for use in instruction during Asian American history month and  
15 disseminate the materials to each county board of education.

16           (d) In carrying out its duties under this section, the Department shall consult  
17 with academics, organizations, and leaders with expertise in Asian American history.

18           (e) (1) On or before December 1, 2028, the State Department of Education  
19 shall report on the results of its activities under this section, in accordance with § 2–1257  
20 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly.

21           (2) The Department shall include in its report under this subsection,  
22 information about Asian American history that, in school years 2026–2027 and 2027–2028,  
23 has been incorporated into the program of instruction in public schools in the State.

24           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
25 1, 2026. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of June 30, 2029,  
26 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and  
27 of no further force and effect.