



100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2017 and 2018

SB3249

Introduced 2/15/2018, by Sen. Heather A. Steans

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.155

105 ILCS 5/27-21

from Ch. 122, par. 27-21

105 ILCS 5/27-23.11 new

Amends the School Code. With regard to the textbook block grant program, provides that the textbooks authorized to be purchased must accurately portray the diversity of our society, including the role and contributions of people protected under the Illinois Human Rights Act, and must be non-discriminatory as to certain characteristics under the Act. Provides that the teaching of history of the United States in public schools shall include a study of the role and contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in the history of this country and this State. Requires every public elementary school and high school to include in its curriculum a unit of instruction studying the significant role of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals in society. Specifies instruction requirements. Requires the regional superintendent of schools to monitor a school district's compliance with the curriculum requirements. Effective July 1, 2019.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES
ACT MAY REQUIRE
REIMBURSEMENT

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Sections
5 2-3.155 and 27-21 and by adding Section 27-23.11 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.155)

7 Sec. 2-3.155. Textbook block grant program.

8 (a) The provisions of this Section are in the public
9 interest, for the public benefit, and serve secular public
10 purposes.

11 (b) As used in this Section, "textbook" means any book or
12 book substitute that a pupil uses as a text or text substitute,
13 including electronic textbooks. "Textbook" includes books,
14 reusable workbooks, manuals, whether bound or in loose-leaf
15 form, instructional computer software, and electronic
16 textbooks and the technological equipment necessary to gain
17 access to and use electronic textbooks intended as a principal
18 source of study material for a given class or group of
19 students. "Textbook" also includes science curriculum
20 materials in a kit format that includes pre-packaged consumable
21 materials if (i) it is shown that the materials serve as a
22 textbook substitute, (ii) the materials are for use by the
23 pupils as a principal learning source, (iii) each component of

1 the materials is integrally necessary to teach the requirements
2 of the intended course, (iv) the kit includes teacher guidance
3 materials, and (v) the purchase of individual consumable
4 materials is not allowed.

5 (c) Beginning July 1, 2011, subject to annual appropriation
6 by the General Assembly, the State Board of Education is
7 authorized to provide annual funding to public school districts
8 and State-recognized, non-public schools serving students in
9 grades kindergarten through 12 for the purchase of selected
10 textbooks. The textbooks authorized to be purchased under this
11 Section are limited without exception to textbooks that have
12 been preapproved and designated by the State Board of Education
13 for use in any public school and that are secular,
14 non-religious, ~~and~~ non-sectarian, and non-discriminatory as to
15 any of the characteristics under paragraph (A) of Section 1-102
16 of the Illinois Human Rights Act. Textbooks authorized to be
17 purchased under this Section must also accurately portray the
18 diversity of our society, including the role and contributions
19 of all people protected under paragraph (A) of Section 1-102 of
20 the Illinois Human Rights Act. The State Board of Education
21 shall annually publish a list of the textbooks authorized to be
22 purchased under this Section. Each public school district and
23 State-recognized, non-public school shall, subject to
24 appropriations for that purpose, receive a per pupil grant for
25 the purchase of secular, non-discriminatory, and accurate
26 textbooks. The per pupil grant amount must be calculated by the

1 State Board of Education utilizing the total appropriation made
2 for these purposes divided by the most current student
3 enrollment data available.

4 (d) The State Board of Education may adopt rules as
5 necessary for the implementation of this Section and to ensure
6 the religious neutrality of the textbook block grant program,
7 as well as provide for the monitoring of all textbooks
8 authorized in this Section to be purchased directly by
9 State-recognized, nonpublic schools serving students in grades
10 kindergarten through 12.

11 (Source: P.A. 97-570, eff. 8-25-11; 97-813, eff. 7-13-12.)

12 (105 ILCS 5/27-21) (from Ch. 122, par. 27-21)

13 Sec. 27-21. History of United States. History of the United
14 States shall be taught in all public schools and in all other
15 educational institutions in this State supported or
16 maintained, in whole or in part, by public funds. The teaching
17 of history shall have as one of its objectives the imparting to
18 pupils of a comprehensive idea of our democratic form of
19 government and the principles for which our government stands
20 as regards other nations, including the studying of the place
21 of our government in world-wide movements and the leaders
22 thereof, with particular stress upon the basic principles and
23 ideals of our representative form of government. The teaching
24 of history shall include a study of the role and contributions
25 of African Americans and other ethnic groups including but not

1 restricted to Polish, Lithuanian, German, Hungarian, Irish,
2 Bohemian, Russian, Albanian, Italian, Czech, Slovak, French,
3 Scots, Hispanics, Asian Americans, etc., in the history of this
4 country and this State. To reinforce the study of the role and
5 contributions of Hispanics, such curriculum shall include the
6 study of the events related to the forceful removal and illegal
7 deportation of Mexican-American U.S. citizens during the Great
8 Depression. The teaching of history shall include a study of
9 the role and contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and
10 transgender people in the history of this country and this
11 State. The teaching of history also shall include a study of
12 the role of labor unions and their interaction with government
13 in achieving the goals of a mixed free enterprise system. No
14 pupils shall be graduated from the eighth grade of any public
15 school unless he has received such instruction in the history
16 of the United States and gives evidence of having a
17 comprehensive knowledge thereof.

18 (Source: P.A. 96-629, eff. 1-1-10.)

19 (105 ILCS 5/27-23.11 new)

20 Sec. 27-23.11. LGBT history and awareness.

21 (a) Every public elementary school and high school shall
22 include in its curriculum a unit of instruction studying the
23 significant role of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender
24 (LGBT) individuals in society. Instruction may be included in
25 those courses that the school district chooses. This

1 instruction shall be designed to teach that LGBT individuals
2 have a rich history and have made substantial and valuable
3 contributions to society, including in government, arts,
4 sciences, mathematics, sports, and education, and in the
5 economic, cultural, and political development of society. The
6 instruction shall teach about the rich advocacy among the LGBT
7 community and the LGBT community's allies to be treated
8 equally. Instruction shall reinforce that all people,
9 regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender
10 expression, have a right to be treated with civil, legal, and
11 human rights, and as full human beings above all else. When
12 possible, adults, including school district employees who
13 openly identify as LGBT and other openly LGBT adults in the
14 community that the school district may decide to consult with,
15 should be involved in the development and delivery of this
16 instruction at the discretion of the LGBT individuals.

17 (b) The State Board of Education may prepare and make
18 available to all school boards instructional materials that may
19 be used as guidelines for development of instruction under this
20 Section.

21 (c) Each school board shall determine the minimum amount of
22 instructional time required under this Section.

23 (d) The regional superintendent of schools shall monitor a
24 school district's compliance with the curriculum requirements
25 of this Section during his or her annual compliance visit.

26 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,

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1 2019.