

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  
5 Section 27-21 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/27-21) (from Ch. 122, par. 27-21)

7 Sec. 27-21. History of United States. History of the  
8 United States shall be taught in all public schools and in  
9 all other educational institutions in this State supported or  
10 maintained, in whole or in part, by public funds. The  
11 teaching of history shall have as one of its objectives the  
12 imparting to pupils of a comprehensive idea of our democratic  
13 form of government and the principles for which our  
14 government stands as regards other nations, including the  
15 studying of the place of our government in world-wide  
16 movements and the leaders thereof, with particular stress  
17 upon the basic principles and ideals of our representative  
18 form of government. The teaching of history shall include a  
19 study of the role and contributions of African Americans and  
20 other ethnic groups including but not restricted to Polish,  
21 Lithuanian, German, Hungarian, Irish, Bohemian, Russian,  
22 Albanian, Italian, Czech, Slovak, French, Scots, Hispanics,  
23 Asian Americans, etc., in the history of this country and  
24 this State. The teaching of history also shall include a  
25 study of the role of labor unions and their interaction with  
26 government in achieving the goals of a mixed free enterprise  
27 system. No pupils shall be graduated from the eighth grade  
28 of any public school unless he has received such instruction  
29 in the history of the United States and gives evidence of  
30 having a comprehensive knowledge thereof.

31 (Source: P.A. 92-27, eff. 7-1-01.)

1           Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect on  
2    January 1, 2004.