

S.F. No. 2442 – Holocaust and Genocide of Indigenous Peoples and Other Genocide Education (as amended)

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Section 1. [120B.25] Holocaust, Genocide of Indigenous Peoples, and Other Genocide Education.

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** Defines “holocaust and genocide studies” as the interdisciplinary teaching and learning about the causes, impacts, and legacies of the Holocaust, other genocides, and incidents of mass violence. Defines “Holocaust” as the systematic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of 6,000,000 Jews by the Nazi regime and its allies and collaborators. Defines “genocide” as an internationally recognized crime where acts are committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group. Defines “incidents of mass violence” as extreme violence deliberately inflicted on a large scale of civilians or noncombatants by state or nonstate actors. Defines “Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies” as the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota.

Subd. 2. **Requirements.** (a) Requires social studies curriculum for middle and high school education on the Holocaust, genocide of Indigenous Peoples, and other genocides to include, at a minimum: examining the history of the genocide of Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous removal from Minnesota; analyzing the connections between World War II, nationalism, fascism, antisemitism, and the Holocaust; analyzing how individuals, groups, and societies around the world have been affected by genocide; and describing and evaluating different responses to genocides and other human rights violations.

(b) Strongly encourages public schools include context about the history, culture, and traditions of the communities devastated by the Holocaust, genocide of Indigenous Peoples, other genocides, and incidents of mass violence in middle and high school social studies curriculum.

(c) Strongly encourages school districts include the Holocaust, genocide of Indigenous Peoples, other genocides, and incidents of mass violence in middle and high school English language arts curriculum.

(d) Requires school districts to provide Holocaust and genocide education as part of its curriculum in middle and high school by the 2025-2026 school year.

Effective Date. Makes this section effective July 1, 2023.

Sec. 2. Working Group on Education on the Holocaust, Genocide of Indigenous Peoples, and Other Genocides.

Subdivision 1. **Working group established.** Establishes the Working Group on Education on the Holocaust, Genocide of Indigenous Peoples, and Other Genocides to advise the commissioner and develop resources necessary to implement education requirements. Requires the commissioner to appoint a minimum of 11 but no more than 21 members to the working group by April 1, 2024.

Subd. 2. **Working group duties.** Requires the working group to: advise the commissioner during the development of the social studies glossary regarding the definitions of “Holocaust,” “genocide,” and “incidents of mass violence;” identify professional learning opportunities for teachers and staff; identify resources for teachers and staff to successfully implement the education requirements; develop model lesson plans that may be used to successfully implement education requirements; create a work plan that outlines the timeline to fulfill its duties; provide the commissioner a list of recommended professional learning opportunities and resources developed; coordinate with the commissioner to update the material and resources; and submit a report containing a list of resources and materials to the chairs and ranking minority members of the committees with primary jurisdiction over kindergarten through grade 12 education policy and finance by November 15, 2025. Lists activities the working group may do.

Subd. 3. **Working group meetings and compensation.** Requires the working group convene on an at least bimonthly basis and hold the first meeting no later than September 1, 2024. Allows the working group members to receive a \$500 per month stipend for their time, work, and expertise.

Subd. 4. **Administration.** Requires the commissioner to provide a meeting space and technical assistance.

Subd. 5. **Expiration.** Expires this section on November 15, 2025, or the date the working group report is submitted to the legislature, whichever is later.

Effective Date. Makes this section effective July 1, 2023.

Sec. 3. Appropriations. Appropriates blank amounts from the general fund to the Department of Education for the Working Group on Education on the Holocaust, Genocide of Indigenous Peoples, and Other Genocides; implementation of education on the Holocaust, genocide of Indigenous Peoples, and other genocides; and professional learning grants for education on the Holocaust, genocide of Indigenous Peoples, and other genocides.