

By: Senator(s) McDaniel

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2788

1 AN ACT RELATING TO CIVIC EDUCATION CURRICULUM; REVISING THE
 2 SOCIAL STUDIES HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CREDIT REQUIREMENT;
 3 REQUIRING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP OR APPROVE
 4 AN INTEGRATED CIVIC EDUCATION CURRICULUM THAT MEETS CERTAIN
 5 REQUIREMENTS; REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT TO USE ORAL HISTORY
 6 RESOURCES TO BE USED ALONG WITH SUCH CURRICULUM; REQUIRING THE
 7 DEPARTMENT TO APPROVE THE CIVIC EDUCATION CURRICULA SUBMITTED BY
 8 LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS; AND FOR RELATED
 9 PURPOSES.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

11 **SECTION 1.** (1) Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year,
 12 the standard high school diploma, course and assessments
 13 requirements shall include three (3) credits in social studies. A
 14 student must earn one (1) credit in United States History; one (1)
 15 credit in World History; one-half (1/2) credit in Economics; and
 16 one-half (1/2) credit in United States Government, which must
 17 include a comparative discussion of political ideologies, such as
 18 communism and totalitarianism, that conflict with the principles
 19 of freedom and democracy essential to the founding principles of
 20 the United States. The United States History EOC assessment



21 constitutes thirty percent (30%) of the student's final course
22 grade.

23 (2) To help families, civic institutions, local communities,
24 district school boards and charter schools prepare students to be
25 civically responsible and knowledgeable adults, beginning with the
26 2023-2024 school year, the State Department of Education shall:

27 (a) Develop or approve an integrated civic education
28 curriculum that school districts and charter schools must
29 incorporate as part of regular school work in Kindergarten through
30 Grade 12. The civic education curriculum must assist students in
31 developing:

32 (i) An understanding of their shared rights and
33 responsibilities as residents of the state and of the founding
34 principles of the United States.

35 (ii) A sense of civic pride and desire to
36 participate regularly with government at the local, state and
37 federal levels.

38 (iii) An understanding of the process for
39 effectively advocating before government bodies and officials.

40 (iv) An understanding of the civic-minded
41 expectations, developed by the State Board of Education, of an
42 upright and desirable citizenry that recognizes and accepts
43 responsibility for preserving and defending the blessings of
44 liberty inherited from prior generations and secured by the United
45 States Constitution.



46 (b) Curate oral history resources to be used along with
47 the civic education curriculum which provide portraits in
48 patriotism based on the personal stories of diverse individuals
49 who demonstrate civic-minded qualities, including first-person
50 accounts of victims of other nations' governing philosophies who
51 can compare those philosophies with those of the United States.
52 This paragraph may be cited as the "Portraits in Patriotism Act."

53 (c) Approve integrated civic education curricula
54 submitted by local school districts and public charter schools
55 that meet the requirements of this subsection.

56 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
57 and after July 1, 2023.

