

By: Representative Karriem

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 65

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A
2 COMPREHENSIVE CURRICULUM AND IMPLEMENT COURSES IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN
3 STUDIES AND RACIAL DIVERSITY TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PUBLIC HIGH
4 SCHOOL EDUCATION CURRICULUM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** In addition to the curriculum otherwise required
7 by law or the State Board of Education to be taught in the public
8 schools of this state, the board shall develop a comprehensive
9 curriculum and implement courses in African-American Studies and
10 Racial Diversity for all students in Grade 9 through Grade 12. In
11 addition to meeting the competencies and objectives established by
12 the State Board of Education in the Mississippi Social Studies
13 Framework, the African-American Studies and Racial Diversity
14 course must:

15 (a) Provide students with an examination of the
16 contributions of people of African descent to American History and
17 emphasis on the importance of diversity in American culture;

18 (b) Provide a chronological framework of African and
19 African-American history;



20 (c) Broaden the knowledge and understandings of
21 students interested in learning about the histories, cultures and
22 economic, geographic and political realities of African Americans;

23 (d) Provide students with an opportunity to engage with
24 the social, economic and political activities of African
25 Americans;

26 (e) Consist of historical content taught with relevance
27 to contemporary and current issues in order to ensure a deeper
28 understanding of cultural issues of the nineteenth and twentieth
29 centuries which have impacted the diverse ethnic and racial
30 populations of the state and nation;

31 (f) Infuse African-American Studies and Racial
32 Diversity as an integral part of American History, including:

33 (i) Slavery;

34 (ii) Post slavery;

35 (iii) The Civil Rights Movement and its
36 contributions;

37 (iv) Reconstruction;

38 (v) Harlem Renaissance;

39 (vi) World Wars I and II; and

40 (vii) Other national and global events.

41 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
42 and after July 1, 2024.

