

By: Representatives Karriem, Blackmon

To: Education

HOUSE BILL NO. 666

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;



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

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

(e) Consist of historical content taught with relevance to contemporary and current issues in order to ensure a deeper understanding of cultural issues of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries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

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

- (i) Slavery;
- (ii) Post slavery;
- (iii) The Civil Rights Movement and its contributions;
- (iv) Reconstruction;
- (v) Harlem Renaissance;
- (vi) World Wars I and II; and
- (vii) Other national and global events.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2025.

