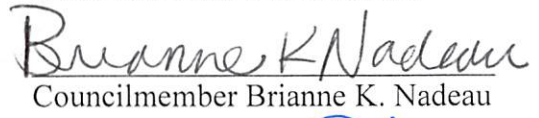


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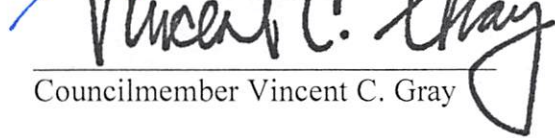

Chairman Phil Mendelson


Councilmember David Grosso


Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau


Councilmember Mary Cheh

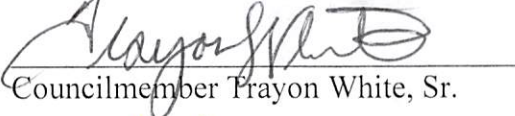

Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.


Councilmember Vincent C. Gray


Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie


Councilmember Brandon T. Todd


Councilmember Elissa Silverman


Councilmember Prayon White, Sr.


Councilmember Anita Bonds


Councilmember Charles Allen

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend the State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000 to require the Office of the State Superintendent of Education to develop an African-American history and cultural studies curriculum for high school students enrolled in a District of Columbia Public or Charter School, and to allow such a course to be counted as part of the promotion requirements of graduation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "African American and Cultural Studies Inclusion Amendment Act of 2020".

Sec. 2. Section 2 of the State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000, effective October 21, 2000 (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C. Official Code § 38-2602), is amended by adding a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

39 “(d)(1)(A) Beginning in the school year commencing in August 2022, and each year
40 thereafter, OSSE shall include African-American history as part of the curriculum for students
41 enrolled in a District of Columbia Public or Charter School between the 9th and 12th grade.

42 “(B) OSSE, in consultation with the State Board of Education and the
43 Office of African American Affairs, shall develop the materials for an African-American history
44 course and may utilize existing and appropriate public or private materials, personnel, and other
45 resources, including persons and organizations that have subject matter and teaching expertise in
46 African-American history or cultural studies and have developed and implemented a curriculum
47 relevant to either African-American history or cultural studies in the past.

48 “(C) No later than January 1, 2021, OSSE, after its review, shall approve
49 the African-American history or cultural study course if OSSE determines that the content of the
50 course is rigorous, aligned with curriculum guidelines approved by the State Board of Education,
51 and in accordance with subject-matter-content standards.

52 “(D) No later than February 1, 2021, OSSE shall submit a description of
53 the African-American course, approved pursuant to paragraph (3) of this subsection, that
54 includes the scope and sequence and course objectives and a report on the development and
55 review of the course to both the Mayor and Council.

56 “(E) No later than August 2022, the approved course shall offered and
57 counted as one of the 4.0 Carnegie Units required for promotion to graduation pursuant to
58 section 2203.3(b) of Title 5 District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (5 DCMR 2203.3(b)).

59 “(2) For the purposes of this subsection, the term:

60 “(A) “African-American Studies” means a disciplinary, inter and multi-
61 disciplinary field that analyzes and treats the past and present culture, achievements,

62 characteristics, and issues of people of African descent in the United States of America (“United
63 States”) with a particular focus on the history of the African-American experience and
64 contributions to the United States in the arts, humanities, and sciences to the economic, cultural,
65 and political development of the United States and includes, at a minimum, discussions of the
66 African origins of humanity and civilization, the modern era enslavement of Africans, and the
67 socio-economic struggle that African-Americans experienced collectively in striving to achieve
68 fair and equal treatment under the laws of the United States.

69 “(B) “Cultural studies” means the interdisciplinary study of culture, race,
70 gender, and ethnicity, as understood through the perspectives of historically underrepresented
71 groups in the United States and centers those perspectives within the context of United States
72 history.”.

73 Sec. Fiscal impact statement.

74 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal
75 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,
76 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

77 Sec. 5. Effective date.

78 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
79 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
80 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
81 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1), and publication in the District of
82 Columbia Register.