

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 707

4  
5 By: Senator Elliott

## For An Act To Be Entitled

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7  
8 AN ACT TO CREATE THE CULTURALLY RELEVANT AND  
9 INCLUSIVE EDUCATION PRACTICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE; AND  
10 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

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14 TO CREATE THE CULTURALLY RELEVANT AND  
15 INCLUSIVE EDUCATION PRACTICES ADVISORY  
16 COMMITTEE.

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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 10, Subchapter 1, is amended  
22 to add an additional section to read as follows:

23 6-10-135. Culturally Relevant and Inclusive Education Practices  
24 Advisory Committee.

25 (a) The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall establish  
26 and appoint members to the Culturally Relevant and Inclusive Education  
27 Practices Advisory Committee for the purposes of:

28 (1) Strengthening culturally relevant education practices; and

29 (2) Supporting anti-bias education and appropriate responses to  
30 bias.

31 (b) The committee shall include without limitation a geographically,  
32 ethnically, and religiously diverse representation of:

33 (1) Teachers;

34 (2) Curriculum specialists;

35 (3) Principals;

36 (4) Superintendents;



- 1           (5) Advocates;
- 2           (6) Institutions of higher education;
- 3           (7) Parents and legal guardians;
- 4           (8) Members of the General Assembly; and
- 5           (9) Community-based organizations.

6           (c) The committee shall provide recommendations to the division during  
7 the 2021-2022 State Board of Education review and approval of the history and  
8 social studies academic standards for content to be added to the history and  
9 social studies academic standards, including without limitation:

10           (1) The historical underpinnings of the Holocaust and other  
11 genocides in the context of how increased lower levels of hate, ridicule, and  
12 dehumanization led to larger acts of violence and state-sponsored  
13 discrimination and violence;

14           (2) Slavery and other forms of historical dehumanizing  
15 injustices and discrimination;

16           (3) Anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, and other types of  
17 discrimination;

18           (4) The ignored and untold history and the indigenous peoples of  
19 North America; and

20           (5) The untold histories of other groups that historically have  
21 been underrepresented in American and world history.

22           (d) The committee shall provide recommendations for the issuance of  
23 division guidelines for public school district personnel and staff regarding  
24 the provision of age-appropriate anti-bias education to students, including  
25 without limitation:

26           (1) Recognition that anti-bias and anti-discrimination education  
27 is the work and responsibility of all staff members within a public school  
28 district;

29           (2) An emphasis on diversity and building a community of  
30 empathy, respect, understanding, and connection;

31           (3) An examination of how lower levels of hate, ridicule, and  
32 dehumanization lead to larger acts of violence, discrimination, and violence;

33           (4) An acknowledgement of:

34           (A) Inequity on the individual level, including without  
35 limitation:

36                   (i) Biased speech; and

