

House Resolution

No. 29

**Introduced by Assembly Member Weber**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Burke, Cooper, Gipson, Gonzalez Fletcher, Holden, Jones-Sawyer, McCarty, Ridley-Thomas, ~~and Thurmond~~ *Thurmond, Aguiar-Curry, Travis Allen, Berman, Bocanegra, Caballero, Chau, Chiu, Daly, Eggman, Frazier, Friedman, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gloria, Grayson, Irwin, Kalra, Lackey, Levine, Limón, Low, Medina, Mullin, Muratsuchi, O'Donnell, Quirk, Quirk-Silva, Rendon, Reyes, Rodriguez, Rubio, Salas, Mark Stone, and Wood*)

April 4, 2017

House Resolution No. 29—Relative to pupil curriculum.

1 WHEREAS, The state is committed to providing excellent  
2 educational opportunities to all of its pupils; and

3 WHEREAS, There are over 92 languages other than English  
4 spoken throughout the state, with the primary languages being  
5 Arabic, Armenian, Cantonese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog,  
6 and Vietnamese; and

7 WHEREAS, Data from multiple sources show a sharp increase  
8 in incidents of interethnic and interreligious violence, threats of  
9 violence, and other hostile behavior that causes increased anxiety  
10 in and outside of classrooms across the United States, including  
11 California; and

12 WHEREAS, Research data from schools in Tucson, Arizona;  
13 Oahu, Hawaii; and San Francisco show that high school ethnic  
14 studies classes have reduced school violence, reduced the school  
15 dropout rate for pupils, raised high school graduation rates, reduced  
16 unexcused absences, boosted self-esteem, raised self-efficacy,

1 increased academic engagement, and raised personal empowerment  
2 for all pupils; and

3 WHEREAS, Cities in the region, such as Portland, Oregon;  
4 Seattle, Washington; and Santa Fe, New Mexico, have passed  
5 resolutions requiring or offering ethnic studies classes. Numerous  
6 school districts in the state, such as El Rancho Unified School  
7 District, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, San  
8 Francisco Unified School District, Woodland Joint Unified School  
9 District, Los Angeles Unified School District, Oakland Unified  
10 School District, Montebello Unified School District, Coachella  
11 Valley Unified School District, Sacramento City Unified School  
12 District, and San Diego Unified School District, also have passed  
13 resolutions requiring or offering ethnic studies classes; and

14 WHEREAS, Various organizations have passed a motion  
15 supporting teachers’ and pupils’ efforts to have access to an ethnic  
16 studies high school graduation requirement; and

17 WHEREAS, Governor Jerry Brown signed Assembly Bill 2016  
18 (Chapter 327 of the Statutes of 2016) into law as Section 51226.7  
19 of the Education Code requiring the Instructional Quality  
20 Commission to develop and the State Board of Education to adopt,  
21 modify, or revise a model ethnic studies curriculum for high  
22 schools; and

23 WHEREAS, Section 51226.7 of the Education Code also  
24 encourages school districts and charter schools serving pupils in  
25 grades 9 to 12, inclusive, to establish an ethnic studies class; now,  
26 therefore, be it

27 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California,* That the  
28 state will establish an ethnic studies graduation requirement for  
29 all high school pupils; and be it further

30 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
31 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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34 REVISIONS:  
35 Heading—Line 4.

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