

# SENATE BILL No. 121

January 30, 2013, Introduced by Senators COLBECK, GREEN, NOFS, SCHUITMAKER, JANSEN, ROBERTSON, BOOHER, BRANDENBURG, PAPPAGEORGE and CASPERSON and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled  
"The revised school code,"  
(MCL 380.1 to 380.1852) by adding section 1167.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           SEC. 1167. (1) THE LEGISLATURE RECOGNIZES THAT THE PURPOSE OF  
2 EDUCATION PURSUANT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION OF 1963 IS TO DEVELOP  
3 GOOD CITIZENS. IN ORDER TO DEVELOP GOOD CITIZENS, AN UNDERSTANDING  
4 OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND AMERICA'S FIRST PRINCIPLES IS  
5 INDISPENSABLE. THE LEGISLATURE ACKNOWLEDGES THAT AMERICAN CITIZENS  
6 MUST TAKE TIME TO HONOR THE FIRST PRINCIPLES, FOUNDERS, DOCUMENTS,  
7 AND SYMBOLS OF THEIR HISTORY. THE EVENTS THAT LED TO THE SIGNING OF  
8 THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY THE DELEGATES  
9 OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ON SEPTEMBER 17, 1787, HAVE  
10 SIGNIFICANCE FOR EVERY AMERICAN AND ARE HONORED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
11 ACROSS THE NATION ON SEPTEMBER 17 OF EACH YEAR AS CONSTITUTION DAY.

1 THEREFORE, THE PERIOD OF SEPTEMBER 11 TO SEPTEMBER 17 OF EACH YEAR,  
2 WHICH SYMBOLICALLY BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 11 AND CONCLUDES ON  
3 SEPTEMBER 17, CONSTITUTION DAY, IS DESIGNATED AS "CONSTITUTION  
4 WEEK" TO BE OBSERVED BY ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND PUPILS AS  
5 PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION.

6 (2) THE BOARD OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A  
7 PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SHALL ENSURE THAT, DURING CONSTITUTION WEEK,  
8 THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTION IS PROVIDED TO ALL PUPILS IN GRADES 3 TO  
9 12 IN AN AGE-APPROPRIATE AND GRADE-APPROPRIATE MANNER:

10 (A) AT THE START OF CONSTITUTION WEEK, TO COINCIDE WITH  
11 SEPTEMBER 11, INSTRUCTION FOCUSING ON VETERAN APPRECIATION, WITH AN  
12 EMPHASIS ON THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND SACRIFICES OF VETERANS OF THE  
13 ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES.

14 (B) INSTRUCTION IN FIRST PRINCIPLES, THAT AFFIRMS THAT THE  
15 RULE OF LAW, THE SOCIAL COMPACT, EQUALITY, UNALIENABLE RIGHTS, AND  
16 LIMITED GOVERNMENT ARE THE FIRST PRINCIPLES UPON WHICH AMERICA WAS  
17 FOUNDED AND FLOURISHES.

18 (C) INSTRUCTION IN KEY HISTORICAL FIGURES, THAT EXPLORES HOW  
19 EXCEPTIONAL, VISIONARY, AND INDISPENSABLE AMERICANS SUCH AS BEN  
20 FRANKLIN, THOMAS PAINE, PATRICK HENRY, JOHN ADAMS, JOHN MARSHALL,  
21 GEORGE WASHINGTON, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, FREDERICK DOUGLASS, MARTIN  
22 LUTHER KING, JR., ELIZABETH CADY STANTON, SUSAN B. ANTHONY, THOMAS  
23 JEFFERSON, AND JAMES MADISON FOUNDED AND ADVANCED THE UNITED  
24 STATES.

25 (D) INSTRUCTION IN FOUNDING DOCUMENTS, THAT EXPLORES HOW THE  
26 DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, THE CONSTITUTION AND THE CONGRESSIONAL  
27 RESOLUTION FORWARDING THE CONSTITUTION TO THE STATES, MARBURY V

1 MADISON, SENECA FALLS DECLARATION OF SENTIMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS,  
2 THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS, THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION, AND THE "I  
3 HAVE A DREAM" SPEECH ARE KEY DOCUMENTS THAT EMBODY AMERICA'S FIRST  
4 PRINCIPLES AND HAVE ADVANCED AMERICAN LIBERTY.

5 (E) INSTRUCTION IN AMERICAN SYMBOLS, THAT EXPLORES HOW THE  
6 BENNINGTON FLAG, THE ORIGINAL BETSY ROSS AMERICAN FLAG, THE CURRENT  
7 AMERICAN FLAG, THE SUFFRAGIST FLAG, THE FORT SUMTER FLAG, THE  
8 GADSDEN FLAG, AND THE FLAG OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ARE KEY  
9 PHYSICAL SYMBOLS OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND FREEDOM THAT SHOULD BE  
10 STUDIED AND REMEMBERED BY EACH AMERICAN.

11 (F) INSTRUCTION IN THE SACRIFICES MADE BY MILLIONS OF MILITARY  
12 AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THE DEFENSE OF LIBERTY STARTING WITH THE  
13 REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND PROGRESSING TO CURRENT CONFLICTS. DISCUSSION  
14 SHOULD ADDRESS THE HISTORIC AND MODERN-DAY SIGNIFICANCE OF  
15 VETERAN'S DAY, INDEPENDENCE DAY, AND MEMORIAL DAY.