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**HOUSE BILL NO. 916**

Offered January 8, 2020

Prefiled January 7, 2020

A *BILL to require the Department of Education to establish a Holocaust and Genocide Education Advisory Committee; report.*

Patrons—Sickles, Samirah, Carr, Convirs-Fowler, Keam and Levine

Referred to Committee on Education

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

1. § 1. *The Department of Education shall establish and appoint such members as it deems appropriate to a Holocaust and Genocide Education Advisory Committee (the Committee) for the purpose of:*

1. *Assessing the current state of instructional requirements, curricula, standards, and teacher training on the Holocaust and other historical genocides. The Committee shall report its findings, including any recommendations for changes to such instructional requirements, curricula, standards, and teacher training, to the Board of Education, the Governor, and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health no later than July 1, 2021; and*

2. *Guiding the Department of Education in developing a robust model curriculum and teacher training module for providing age-appropriate instruction on the Holocaust and other historical genocides as a method of providing anti-bias education for public school students in the Commonwealth. The Committee shall seek guidance and counsel in creating such model curriculum and teacher training module from the organizations Echoes and Reflections, Facing History and Ourselves, and Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. Such model curriculum and teacher training module shall include case studies and instructional lessons on (i) the historical underpinnings of the Holocaust and other genocides in the context of how lower levels of hate, ridicule, and dehumanization led to larger acts of violence and state-sponsored discrimination and violence; (ii) the impact of and the tools for responding to different forms of racism, bigotry, and discrimination; and (iii) slavery and other forms of historical dehumanizing injustice.*

INTRODUCED

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