

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
State of Oklahoma

SPEAKER:

CHAIR:

I move to amend HB1397 \_\_\_\_\_  
Of the printed Bill  
Page \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Lines \_\_\_\_\_  
Of the Engrossed Bill

By striking the Title, the Enacting Clause, the entire bill, and by inserting in lieu thereof the following language:

**AMEND TITLE TO CONFORM TO AMENDMENTS**

Amendment submitted by: Mark Lepak \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reading Clerk

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

3 PROPOSED COMMITTEE  
4 SUBSTITUTE  
5 FOR  
6 HOUSE BILL NO. 1397

By: Lepak

7 PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 An Act relating to schools; mandating curriculum  
9 include a unit on the civil rights movement;  
10 providing description of curriculum; directing the  
11 State Superintendent of Public Instruction to prepare  
12 and make available materials; providing for  
13 codification; and providing an effective date.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

15 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
16 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 11-103.6p of Title 70, unless  
17 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

18 A. The State Department of Education shall develop and make  
19 available to every public elementary school and high school in the  
20 State of Oklahoma, a curriculum that may be taught as a stand-alone  
21 unit of instruction, or may be integrated into one or more existing  
22 courses of study, studying the events of the civil rights movement  
23 from 1954 to 1968, the natural law and natural rights principles  
24 that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., drew from that informed  
his leadership of the civil rights movement, and the tactics and

1 strategies of nonviolent resistance that he championed in response  
2 to the Jim Crow laws of that era. This period in American history  
3 is known as the civil rights era because during this period reform-  
4 minded Americans organized to press for a rejection of the doctrine  
5 of "separate but equal" and to repeal the Jim Crow-era laws in parts  
6 of the United States that embodied that doctrine. One of the  
7 universal lessons of the civil rights era is that hatred on the  
8 basis of immutable characteristics, including not just race or  
9 ethnicity, but also characteristics such as nationality, religious  
10 belief, disability, or sex, can overtake any nation or society,  
11 leading to profound injustice. To reinforce that lesson, such  
12 curriculum shall include an additional unit of instruction studying  
13 other acts of discriminatory injustice, such as genocide, committed  
14 elsewhere around the globe. The study of this material is a  
15 reaffirmation of the commitment of the people of this state to  
16 reject bigotry, to champion equal protection under the law as a  
17 foundational principle of our Republic, and to act in opposition to  
18 injustice wherever it may occur.

19 B. The State Department of Education shall identify resources  
20 and provide exemplar units or sample lesson plans designed to help  
21 teachers provide instruction on the subject matter outlined in this  
22 act.

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1 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

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3 59-1-7744 MJ 02/24/23

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