

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2023

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1736

By: Representative R. Scott Richardson

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE PERILS OF COMMUNISM AND
AUTOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS BE TAUGHT IN ALL PUBLIC
SCHOOLS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE THE PERILS OF COMMUNISM AND
AUTOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS BE TAUGHT IN ALL
PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-16-156. Perils of communism education – Required – Definition.

(a) Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, education concerning the perils of communism and autocratic governments shall be taught in all public schools in a manner that generates an understanding of the following results of communism and autocratic governments:

(1) The record of mass murder and oppression committed as a result of communism and autocratic governments;

(2) The economic structures and related collapses of the economic structures in countries that have adopted communist policies;

(3) The issues and failures associated with communist economic systems; and

(4) The continued failure of communism and autocratic governments resulting from the direct influences of:

(A) The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and its



successor state, Russia;

(B) The People's Republic of China;

(C) Democratic People's Republic of Korea; and

(D) Argentina.

(b) The State Board of Education, in consultation with local, statewide, and national experts in communism and autocratic government education, shall develop and distribute grade-appropriate curricula, standards, materials, and units relating to the perils of communism and autocratic governments for grades seven through twelve (7-12) in all public schools.

(c) As used in this section, "communism and autocratic government" means a system of government:

(1) In which absolute power over a state is concentrated in the hands of one (1) individual, whose decisions are subject to neither external legal constraints nor regularized mechanisms of popular control; and

(2) That has resulted in the murder of approximately one hundred million (100,000,000) of its own citizens.