

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY
Policy and Legislation Committee
4/24/2025
Special Committee
7/24/2025

DRAFT RESOLUTION 2025.04.02

*Calling for AB 715 (Zbur) to Be Designated a Two-Year Bill to Ensure Adequate
Deliberation [Substitute]*

WHEREAS AB 715 (Zbur) seeks to address educational equity and antisemitism prevention—goals that merit thoughtful legislative development and broad community input; however, the bill was introduced on May 12, 2025, as a gut-and-amend replacement for AB 1468, which had missed its scheduled hearing in the Assembly Education Committee on April 30, 2025, raising procedural concerns about transparency and stakeholder access; and

WHEREAS the amended language of AB 715 was heard in the Assembly Education Committee just two days after its introduction, on May 14, 2025, and the bill passed the Assembly on May 29, 2025; this rapid progression afforded little opportunity for educators, civil rights organizations, and the public to meaningfully review or respond to the bill’s content and implementation framework, raising concerns about the speed and transparency of the legislative process; and

WHEREAS AB 715 has been referred to both the Senate Education and Senate Judiciary Committees and was also substantively amended in the Senate on July 1, 2025, prior to its first committee hearing in September, signaling a complex legislative path and the need for further revision; given the compressed timeline and the outstanding concerns still to be addressed, it is unlikely the bill can be responsibly finalized and enacted this year without compromising public input and thorough deliberation, making a two-year designation critical to fully and responsibly realizing the bill’s important objectives;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of Sacramento County urges the California State Legislature to designate AB 715 as a two-year bill to preserve democratic process, encourage deliberative amendment, and ensure that the bill’s goals are pursued through inclusive and transparent policymaking; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the Democratic Party of Sacramento County, or their designee, is authorized to transmit a letter of concern reflecting the contents of this resolution to Assemblymember Zbur, the Chairs of the Senate and Assembly Education Committees, and other relevant legislative bodies.

Original Author: David Mandel
Substitute Author: Joshua Cameron
Substitute recommended in lieu of original: July 24, 2024

ORIGINAL VERSION

Opposing Assembly Bill (AB) 1468 (Zbur) - Ethnic studies: content standards, curriculum frameworks, instructional materials, and compliance monitoring

WHEREAS the California State Legislature has approved a standard high school curriculum for ethnic studies as required by AB 2016 (Alejo) of 2016 and mandated that ethnic studies courses are to be provided for high school students beginning in the 2025-26 school year, per AB 101 (Medina) of 2021, though it remains an unfunded mandate; and

WHEREAS AB 1468 (Zbur) would further delay the long-awaited implementation of the ethnic studies mandate for California high schools by imposing additional intrusive and costly requirements for reporting by local educational authorities (LEAs) and oversight by state bureaucrats, both unlike those required for any other curriculum category; and

WHEREAS AB 1468 would mandate limiting the content of ethnic studies to narratives about various ethnic groups' experiences in the United States, disallowing study of connections to oppressive conditions and other factors that drove emigration from other lands and ruling out any "goal ... to understand abstract ideological theories, causes, or pedagogies" -- all meant, as revealed in some authors' and sponsors' own words, to squelch inclusion of Palestinian oppression or criticism of Israel;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Sacramento County Democratic Party declares its opposition to AB 1468 and urges legislators to remove themselves as co-authors if they signed on as such, and to oppose it in any vote; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of Sacramento County urges legislators to fully fund AB 101 so that ethnic studies will finally become available to pupils as previously mandated and as a University of California entrance requirement.

Author: David Mandel