# #In the Greater Appalachia Assembly

### June 16th, 2021

## **#Social Studies Modernization Act**

This is an act to modernize social studies curriculum in Greater Appalachian public schools

- \*Whereas, public schools in Greater Appalachia have done a poor job giving children a full understanding of American history\*
- \*Whereas, specifically, many schools in states of the former Confederate States of America have shown a sympathetic view of the secessionists\*
- \*Whereas, Critical Race Theory will provide children the necessary knowledge to address systemic inequality in the United States\*
- \*Whereas, The 1619 Project is a bold yet important perspective of American history and race relations and it would benefit children to learn from it\*
- \*Whereas, The history and struggles of LGBT Americans are widely neglected by American education\*
- \*Whereas, The horrific act of Buck Breaking is largely ignored in typical curriculum\*
- \*THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Greater Appalachia that:\*
- \*\*Section 1. Title\*\*
- (1) This bill shall be referred to as the "Social Studies Modernization Act"

#### \*\*Section 2. Definitions\*\*

"Critical Race Theory" refers to an intellectual movement and framework of social analysis based on the premise that race is not a natural, biologically grounded feature of physically distinct subgroups of human beings but a socially constructed category that is used to oppress and exploit people of color.

"Public Schools" refers to free of cost education institutions maintained by funds generated through taxes

"Buck Breaking" refers to the act of sexually abusing Black slaves publicly and in front of other slaves, in order to assert dominance and punish them.

- \*\*Section 3. Prohibition of Confederate Sympathy in Schools\*\*
- (1) Public Schools and publicly employed teachers within Greater Appalachia shall be prohibited from teaching a curriculum which imparts a sympathetic view of the Confederate States of America.
- (2) Public Schools and publicly employed teachers within Greater Appalachia shall be prohibited from teaching a curriculum which imparts a view that the American Civil War was fought over States' Rights.
- (3) Public Schools and publicly employed teachers within Greater Appalachia shall make sure students are aware that the American Civil War was a conflict primarily about the preservation of the Union and the abolition of the institution of slavery.
- (4) Public Schools and publicly employed teachers within Greater Appalachia shall be prohibited from referring to the American Civil War as the "War of Northern Aggression".
- (5) Textbooks which do not meet the requirements of the aforementioned standards shall be discarded and public schools shall be required to purchase new ones.
- \*\*Section 4. Critical Race Theory in Schools\*\*
- (1) Public Schools and publicly employed teachers within Greater Appalachia shall be required to teach American history through the lense of Critical Race Theory.

- (2) Public Schools and publicly employed teachers within Greater Appalachia shall be required to teach that the United States was a nation built off the exploitation of people of color.
- (3) Public Schools and publicly employed teachers within Greater Appalachia shall be required to teach that the United States is still a systemically racist nation.
- (4) Public Schools and publicly employed teachers within Greater Appalachia shall be required to attempt to impart a sense of guilt to white students for the role White Americans have played in the oppression of People of Color.
- \*\*Section 5. The 1619 Project in Schools\*\*
- (1) Public Schools and publicly employed teachers within Greater Appalachia shall be required to teach American history through the lense of Nikole Hannah-Jones's 1619 Project.
- \*\*Section 6. Buck Breaking\*\*
- (1) Public Schools and publicly employed teachers within Greater Appalachia shall be required to teach about the history of Buck Breaking
- (2) Public Schools and publicly employed teachers within Greater Appalachia shall be required to show students Tariq Nasheed's film \*Buck Breaking\*
- \*\*Section 7. LGBT History in Schools\*\*
- (1) Public Schools within Greater Appalachia shall offer a course on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans American history which shall count for a social studies credit required for graduation.
- (2) Public Schools and publicly employed teachers within Greater Appalachia shall be required to teach about the Pride Movement and the oppression of LGBT Americans throughout history.

#### \*\*Section 8. Enactment\*\*

- (1) This act shall go into effect at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
- (2) \$10,000,000 shall be appropriated for the development of new textbooks meeting the requirements of the aforementioned standards.
- (3) If any portion of this act is struck down, the rest of the act shall still be in effect.

