A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for the reduction of certain funding and
2 budgets for public schools, community colleges, and regents
3 institutions following the use of specified curriculum and
4 including effective date and applicability provisions.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.

1. The general assembly finds that recently developed United States history curriculum derived from a project by the New York Times, known as the "1619 Project", attempts to deny or obfuscate the fundamental principles upon which the United States was founded.

2. The general assembly has a strong interest in promoting an accurate account of this nation’s history through public schools and forming young people into knowledgeable and patriotic citizens.

Sec. 2. Section 256.11, Code 2021, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 5A. A school shall not utilize any United States history curriculum that in whole or in part is derived from a project by the New York Times, known as the "1619 Project", or any similarly developed curriculum.

Sec. 3. Section 257.7, Code 2021, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 3. Budget reductions for curriculum violations. The amount of a school district’s budget otherwise determined under subsection 1 shall be reduced by one one-hundred-eightieth for each day of the previous budget year for which the school district used school curriculum in violation of section 256.11, subsection 5A.

Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 257.17A Aid reduction for curriculum violations.

1. State aid payments made pursuant to section 257.16 for a fiscal year shall be reduced by one one-hundred-eightieth for each day of that fiscal year for which the school district used school curriculum in violation of section 256.11, subsection 5A, during the prior school year.

2. The department of management shall prorate the reduction made pursuant to this section to account for a school district that is approved to maintain a year-round school calendar under section 279.10, subsection 2.
Sec. 5. Section 260C.17, subsection 1, Code 2021, is amended to read as follows:

1. The board of directors of each merged area shall prepare an annual budget designating the proposed expenditures for operation of the community college. The board shall further designate the amounts which are to be raised by local taxation and the amounts which are to be raised by other sources of revenue for the operation. The budget of each merged area shall be submitted to the state board no later than May 1 preceding the next fiscal year for approval. The state board shall review the proposed budget and shall, prior to June 1, either grant its approval or return the budget without approval with the comments of the state board attached to it. Any unapproved budget shall be resubmitted to the state board for final approval. If the merged area has utilized any United States history curriculum during the previous fiscal year that in whole or in part is derived from a project by the New York Times, known as the "1619 Project", or any similarly developed curriculum, the state board shall reduce the merged area's final total budget by an amount proportionate to the number of days during that fiscal year that the curriculum was used. Upon approval of the budget by the state board, the board of directors shall certify the amount to the respective county auditors and the boards of supervisors annually shall levy a tax of twenty and one-fourth cents per thousand dollars of assessed value on taxable property in a merged area for the operation of a community college. Taxes collected pursuant to the levy shall be paid by the respective county treasurers to the treasurer of the merged area as provided in section 331.552, subsection 29.

Sec. 6. Section 262.28, Code 2021, is amended to read as follows:

262.28 Appropriations — monthly installments.

1. All appropriations made payable annually to each of the institutions under the control of the board of regents shall be
paid in twelve equal monthly installments on the last day of each month on order of said board.

2. If an institution under the control of the board of regents has utilized any United States history curriculum during the previous fiscal year that in whole or in part is derived from a project by the New York Times, known as the "1619 Project", or any similarly developed curriculum, the monthly appropriations paid to the institution shall be reduced by an amount proportionate to the number of days during that fiscal year that the curriculum was used.

Sec. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

Sec. 8. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to budgets, state aid payments, and appropriations for fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2021.

EXPLANATION

The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

This bill includes findings of the general assembly that the recently developed United States history curriculum derived from a project by the New York Times, known as the "1619 Project", attempts to deny or obfuscate the fundamental principles upon which the United States was founded and that the general assembly has a strong interest in promoting an accurate account of this nation's history through public schools and forming young people into knowledgeable and patriotic citizens.

The bill amends provisions governing the educational program established by the state board of education to prohibit a school from utilizing any United States history curriculum that in whole or in part is derived from a project by the New York Times, known as the "1619 Project", or any similarly developed curriculum. The bill requires reductions to the authorized budget of and state aid payments to a school district that violates the prohibition on the use of prohibited curriculum.
The bill also provides that if a merged area (community college) has utilized any United States history curriculum during the previous fiscal year that in whole or in part is derived from a project by the New York Times, known as the "1619 Project", or any similarly developed curriculum, the state board shall reduce the merged area's final total budget by an amount proportionate to the number of days during that fiscal year that the curriculum was used.

Under the bill, if an institution under the control of the board of regents has utilized any United States history curriculum during the previous fiscal year that in whole or in part is derived from a project by the New York Times, known as the "1619 Project", or any similarly developed curriculum, the monthly appropriations paid to the institution shall be reduced by an amount proportionate to the number of days during that fiscal year that the curriculum was used.

The bill takes effect upon enactment and applies to budgets, state aid payments, and appropriations for fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2021.