

## Status updates:

### From Legislative report 1/21/22

- No updates to report on House Bill 5674 “Racial Equity and Reparations Fund Act”
- No updates to report on House Bill 5672 “Michigan Strategic Fund Act”
- No updates to report on House Bill 5673
- No updates to report on House Resolution 0205 (Resolution to Address Fertilizer Shortage)

## 2/4/22 Legislative Report:

### Introduced

#### Senate Bill 798 (SB 798) 1/12/22

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2021-2022/billintroduced/Senate/pdf/2022-SIB-0798.pdf>

**Introduced by Senators** GEISS (D) , HOLLIER (D) , CHANG (D), BULLOCK (D), BAYER (D), MCMORROW (D), ALEXANDER (D), POLEHANKI (D), MOSS (D), IRWIN (D), BRINKS (D) and WOJNO (D) and referred to the Committee on Education and Career Readiness.

**Purpose: SB 798** is intended to revise 1976 PA 451 “The revised school code” by adding section 1164d.

### Mandates:

- Starting the 2022-2023 school year, the board of each school district, intermediate school district, and public academy will implement 1 unit of age/grade appropriate content relating to Latin American, Hispanic American, and Caribbean American history into the established history curriculum.

These units may include:

- Contributions made by Latin Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Caribbean Americans in government, the arts, humanities, and sciences
- Contributions of Latin Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Caribbean Americans to the economic, cultural, social, and political development of the United States
- Contributions of Latin Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Caribbean Americans toward advancing civil rights.
- The history of Latin Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Caribbean Americans in Michigan and the Midwest.

Responsibilities of the superintendents are as follows:

- The superintendent of public instruction may adopt or create instruction materials to be distributed and implemented as a guideline.
- The superintendent of each school district or chief administrator of each public school will have the responsibility to ensure that this curriculum addition is implemented.

\*“1 unit of instruction” is defined in this bill as being the minimum amount of instructional time necessary to teach the material, to be determined by the board of the school district, intermediate school district, or directors of the public school academy.

### Implications:

- **SB 798** has the potential to diversify history curriculum, by making Latin American, Hispanic American, and Caribbean American history a part of general curriculum, rather than part of elective history classes.
- **SB 798** will likely result in highly beneficial impacts for students from Latin American, Hispanic American, and Caribbean American backgrounds across the state should it be implemented. Studies have demonstrated that the implementation of ethnic studies programming, either in general classes or specialized programs, leads to more long-term engagement of students from marginalized communities.
- Michigan in particular has a long history that Latino-Americans, especially where industrialization, labor, urbanization, agriculture, and migration is concerned. Thus, the implementation of a curriculum that details the role of the Latino community historically would be extremely relevant, in addition to benefiting students.

Source: <https://news.stanford.edu/2021/09/06/research-finds-sustained-impact-ethnic-studies-class/>

- **SB 798** would have particular impact on school districts with higher Latino student populations, in particular: the Grand Rapids School District, Holland School District, Fennville Public School District, Cartoon School District, among others.

Source: [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/RacialCensus0506\\_204440\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/RacialCensus0506_204440_7.pdf)

### Notes:

- **SB 798** leaves the *specific* type of curriculum, content, and time allocated for this addition up to school boards, rather than centralizing the addition. This may be beneficial, as school districts with particular ties to this history of Latinos will be able to address those specific community ties. At the same time, this may be problematic, as some leaders might decide to allocate very little time/energy/material to this implementation, by defining “one unit of instruction” differently.

### Introduced

#### House Bill 5723 (HB 5723) 2/2/22

<https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2021-2022/billintroduced/House/pdf/2022-HIB-5723.pdf>

#### Introduced by Representatives

COLEMAN (D), THANEDAR (D), CARTER (D), LAFAVE (R), LIBERATI (D), AIYASH (D), POHUTSKY (D), YOUNG (D), STECKLOFF (D), BREEN (D), JOHNSON (R), EISEN (R), OUTMAN (R), CARRA (R), CARTER (D), GARZA (D), RABHI (D) and JONES (D) and referred to the Committee on Government Operations

**Purpose:** **HB 5723** is intended to amend 1949 PA 300 "Michigan vehicle code," by amending section 750, which prohibits the mandate of arrest or citation quotas for law enforcement officers.

**Mandates:**

- **HB 5723** mandates that police officers not be required to issue a specified number of arrests or citations, including parking or standing violations.
- Police officer's performance evaluation systems must not include the issuance of a specified number of arrests or citations, including parking or standing violations.
- As an addition to the existing bill, **HB 5723** mandates that the number of arrests or citations made by a police officer may not be the cause for the promotion, demotion, dismissal, or discipline of an officer.

Nothing in **HB 5723** prohibits a law enforcement agency from doing any of the following:

- Compiling data from arrests or citations issued by a police officer pursuant to this act.
- Using the data compiled to determine whether a police officer has engaged in discriminatory practices or violated his/her legal obligation as a police officer.

**Implications:**

- **HB 5723** and other bills prohibiting police quotas have significant impacts upon Hispanic/Latino communities
- While there is an alarming lack of data surrounding the policing of Hispanic/Latino communities, the data that does exist reveals a disturbing pattern of Hispanics/Latinos as well as African Americans being disproportionately stopped, given citations, and being arrested  
<https://michiganadvance.com/2022/01/13/study-black-latino-drivers-more-likely-to-be-se-arched-and-arrested-after-traffic-stops/>
- This targeting is only made worse by policies that mandate police quotas, as these quotas often spur even more arrests to be made (with people of color and low-income persons disproportionately up those arrests.)
- Thus, **HB 5723** and other bills that eliminate this quota are beneficial to the larger Michigan Hispanic/Latino community, as they diminish (though do not eliminate) this discriminatory practice.