HOUSE BILL NO. HB0132

Ban on teaching and training critical race theory.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Bear, Allred, Banks,
Haroldson, Heiner and Hornok and Senator(s)
Biteman and Brennan

A BILL

for

- 1 AN ACT relating to teaching and training standards;
- 2 creating limitations on teaching and training specified
- 3 concepts; specifying duties for the attorney general and
- 4 district attorneys; preventing public employers from
- 5 requiring employee training on specified concepts; creating
- 6 private causes of action; authorizing civil damages;
- 7 requiring reporting; and providing for an effective date.

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9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

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- 11 **Section 1**. W.S. 21-9-105 and 27-9-109 are created to
- 12 read:

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14 21-9-105. Prohibited instruction; disciplinary

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15 action; legal action; civil penalty.

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ethnicity, sex, color or national origin.

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2 (a) Any teacher, administrator or other employee of a 3 school district or state agency who is involved with 4 students and teachers in preschool through twelfth grade shall not use public monies for instruction that presents 5 any form of blame or judgment on the basis of race, 6

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9 (b) Any teacher, administrator or other employee of a 10 school district or state agency who is involved with students and teachers in preschool through twelfth grade 11 12 shall not instruct in, provide information on or make part 13 of a course of instruction any of the following concepts:

14

15 (i) That any sex, race, ethnicity, religion, 16 color or national origin is inherently superior or 17 inferior;

18

19 (ii) That a person should be discriminated 20 against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly 21 because of the sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color or 22 national origin attributed to that person;

2

1 (iii) That a person, by virtue of the sex, race,

2 ethnicity, religion, color or national origin attributed to

3 that person, is inherently responsible for actions

4 committed in the past by other members of the same or any

5 other sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color or national

6 origin;

7

8 (iv) That a person, by virtue of the sex, race,

9 ethnicity, religion, color or national origin attributed to

10 that person, is inherently racist, sexist or oppressive,

11 whether consciously or unconsciously;

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13 (v) That a person's moral character is

14 necessarily determined by the sex, race, ethnicity,

15 religion, color or national origin attributed to that

16 person;

17

18 (vi) That a person should be targeted for or

19 made to feel discomfort, guilt, anguish or any other form

20 of psychological, physical or any other kind of distress

21 because of the sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color or

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22 national origin attributed to that person;

1 (vii) That meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic are racist or sexist or were created by a 2 3 particular race to oppress another race; 4 5 (viii) That the United States is fundamentally 6 or systemically racist or sexist. 7 8 (c) Subsection (b) of this section shall not prevent 9 a teacher, administrator or other employee of a school 10 district or state agency who is involved with students and 11 teachers in preschool through the twelfth grade from 12 instructing in or making part of a course: 13 14 (i) The history of an ethnic group, as described 15 textbooks and instructional materials adopted in in 16 accordance with approved curriculum; 17 (ii) The discussion of otherwise controversial 18 19 aspects of history, only if done so by presenting, from a 20 holistic point of view, a complete and accurate perspective

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21

of the subject matter;

1 (iii) Instruction on the historical oppression

2 of a particular group of people based on race, ethnicity,

3 class, nationality, religion or geographic region;

4

5 (iv) Primary source documents relevant to a

6 discussion in paragraphs (i) through (iii) of this section

7 if otherwise approved for use in curriculum or trainings.

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9 (d) Subsection (c) of this section shall not be

10 interpreted to allow for a violation of subsection (b) of

11 this section.

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13 (e) An attorney acting on behalf of a school district

14 may request that the state superintendent of public

15 instruction request a legal opinion from the attorney

16 general as to whether a proposed use of school district

17 resources would violate this section.

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19 (f) A teacher or administrator who violates this

20 section shall be subject to disciplinary action under W.S.

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21 21-7-110.

1 (g) The district attorney for the county in which an 2 alleged violation of this section occurs or the attorney 3 general may initiate a suit in the district court in the 4 county in which the teacher, administrator, school district 5 or state agency is located for the purpose of enforcing this section. For each violation of this section, including 6 subsequent or continued violations, the court may impose a 7 8 civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars 9 (\$5,000.00) for each separate violation of this section.

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11 (h) A person aggrieved by an alleged violation of 12 this section shall have a private cause of action against 13 any teacher, administrator, school district or state agency that violates this section for damages arising from the 14 15 alleged violation. Notwithstanding any other provision of 16 law, no teacher, administrator, school district or state 17 agency shall be immune from liability for a violation of this section. The aggrieved person shall bring an action in 18 19 the district court in the county in which the teacher, 20 administrator, school district or state agency is located.

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1 (j) This section shall not preclude any training on

2 sexual harassment or training on recognizing and reporting

3 abuse.

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5 27-9-109. Training, orientation and therapy; blame

6 and judgment; prohibition; annual report; definition.

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8 (a) The state, a state agency or a city, town, county

9 or political subdivision shall not require an employee to

10 engage in training, orientation or therapy or use public

11 monies for training, orientation or therapy that instructs

12 in, provides information on or makes part of a training

13 presentation any of the following concepts:

14

15 (i) That any sex, race, ethnicity, religion,

16 color or national origin is inherently superior or

17 inferior;

18

19 (ii) That a person should be discriminated

20 against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly

21 because of the sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color or

7

22 national origin attributed to that person;

1 (iii) That a person, by virtue of the sex, race,

2 ethnicity, religion, color or national origin attributed to

3 that person, is inherently responsible for actions

4 committed in the past by other members of the same or any

5 other sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color or national

6 origin;

7

8 (iv) That a person, by virtue of the sex, race,

9 ethnicity, religion, color or national origin attributed to

10 that person, is inherently racist, sexist or oppressive,

11 whether consciously or unconsciously;

12

13 (v) That a person's moral character is

14 necessarily determined by the sex, race, ethnicity,

15 religion, color or national origin attributed to that

16 person;

17

18 (vi) That a person should be targeted for or

19 made to feel discomfort, guilt, anguish or any other form

20 of psychological, physical or any other kind of distress

21 because of the sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color or

8

22 national origin attributed to that person;

1 (vii) That meritocracy or traits such as a hard 2 work ethic are racist or sexist, or were created by a 3 particular race to oppress another race; 4 5 (viii) That the United States is fundamentally 6 or systemically racist or sexist. 7 8 (b) Subsection (a) of this section shall not prevent 9 the state, a state agency or a city, town, county or 10 political subdivision from instructing in or making part of 11 a training presentation: 12 (i) The history of an ethnic group, as described 13 in textbooks and instructional materials approved by the 14 attorney general in conformance with subsection (a) of this 15 16 section; 17 (ii) The discussion of otherwise controversial 18

19 aspects of history, only if done so by presenting, from a 20 holistic point of view, a complete, neutral and unbiased 21 perspective of the subject matter;

1 (iii) Instruction on the historical oppression

2 of a particular group of people based on race, ethnicity,

3 class, nationality, religion or geographic region;

4

5 (iv) Primary source documents relevant to a

6 discussion in paragraphs (i) through (iii) of this section

7 if otherwise approved for use in curriculum or trainings.

8

9 (c) Subsection (b) of this section shall not be

10 interpreted to allow for a violation of subsection (a) of

11 this section.

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13 (d) This subsection shall not preclude any training

14 on sexual harassment or reporting of abuse.

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16 (e) On or before December 1 of each year, the

17 department of administration and information shall submit a

18 report that lists state agencies in compliance with this

19 section to the governor, the president of the senate, the

20 speaker of the house of representatives and the secretary

21 of state.

(f) A person aggrieved by an alleged violation of this section shall have a private cause of action against the state, a state agency or a city, town, county or political subdivision for damages arising from the alleged violation. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, neither the state nor any state agency, city, town, county or political subdivision shall be immune from liability for

8 a violation of this section. The aggrieved person may bring

9 an action in the district court in the county in which

10 alleged violation occurred.

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12 **Section 2**. W.S. 1-39-104(a) is amended to read:

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- 14 1-39-104. Granting immunity from tort liability;
- 15 liability on contracts; exceptions.

- (a) A governmental entity and its public employees
 while acting within the scope of duties are granted
 immunity from liability for any tort except as provided by
 W.S. 1-39-105 through 1-39-112, 21-9-105(h) and
 21 27-9-109(f). Any immunity in actions based on a contract
 entered into by a governmental entity is waived except to
- 23 the extent provided by the contract if the contract was

1 within the powers granted to the entity and was properly

2 executed and except as provided in W.S. 1-39-120(b). The

3 claims procedures of W.S. 1-39-113 apply to contractual

4 claims against governmental entities.

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6 Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

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8 (END)