

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JML 24-132

## PREVENTING THE USE OF CRITICAL RACE THEORY IN LOUISIANA'S K-12 PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM

WHEREAS, pursuant to La. Const. art. VIII, § 1, the goal of the public educational system is to provide learning environments and experiences that are humane, just, and designed to promote excellence in order that every individual may be afforded an equal opportunity to develop to his or her full potential;

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of Louisiana and the Constitution of the United States of America recognize the equal value of every individual and provide equal protection under the law;

WHEREAS, inherently divisive concepts, like Critical Race Theory ("CRT") and its progeny instruct students to view the world through the lens of race and presume some students are consciously or unconsciously racist, sexist, or oppressive and that some students are victims;

WHEREAS, these inherently divisive concepts are antithetical to America's founding ideals of liberty, justice, equality, opportunity, and unity among its people;

WHEREAS, it is the policy of this administration that such inherently divisive concepts are destructive and have no place in the public educational system of the State of Louisiana;

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education for public elementary and secondary education is the administrative head of the Department of Education and is responsible for executing and implementing educational policies and programs of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the laws affecting schools under its jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.S. 17:22 the State Superintendent of Education makes an annual report to the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Governor, and the Legislature;

WHEREAS, Act 326 of the 2024 Legislative Session codified that parents of public school children have the right that a school shall not discriminate against a child by teaching the child that he or she is currently or destined to be oppressed or to be an oppressor based on the child's race or national origin;

WHEREAS, during his tenure, the State Superintendent of Education has worked relentlessly to prevent inherently divisive concepts, like CRT, from infiltrating Louisiana's K-12 public education system.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, JEFF LANDRY,** Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

Section 1: The State Superintendent of Education will continue to review rules, bulletins, regulations, contracts, and policies within the Department of Education and take action to eliminate or, if necessary, report to the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education any rules, bulletins, regulations, contracts, or policies that endorse theories that:

- A. An individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously;
- B. An individual's moral character is necessarily determined by his or her race or sex;
- C. An individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex;
- D. Meritocracy or traits such as a strong work ethic are racist or sexist, or were created by a particular race or sex to oppress another race or sex;
- E. Encourage students to discriminate against someone based on the individual's color, creed, race, ethnicity, sex, age, marital status, familial status, disability, religion, national origin, or any other characteristic protected by federal or state law.

Section 2: All departments, commissions, boards, offices, entities, agencies, and officers of the State of Louisiana, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate with the State Superintendent of Education in implementing the provisions of this Order.

Section 3: This Order is effective upon signature and shall continue in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded by the Governor, or terminated by operation of law.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 2024.

Jeff Landry

**GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA** 

ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Nancy Landry SECRETARY OF STATE