JCRC Responds to California Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum Revisions

San Francisco, CA – Today the California Department of Education (CDE) released its revised draft of the California Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum. JCRC has supported the revision process in order to address issues we identified in the original draft, including antisemitic and anti-Israel content and what appeared to be the exclusion of Jewish Americans and the Jewish American experience.

“We are encouraged by the California Department of Education’s recommended revisions of the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum, which address two of our major concerns: the removal of hateful and divisive content towards Jews and Israelis, and the acknowledgement and inclusion of antisemitism as a form of hatred. We appreciate that the revised draft acknowledges additional ethnic groups in California, including Jewish Americans, Arab Americans, Iranian Americans, Armenian Americans, South Asian Americans and others, while honoring the four foundational groups of ethnic studies,” said Tye Gregory, JCRC Executive Director.

“Over the coming days, our team will carefully review the proposed revisions to the model curriculum. With our partners in the Jewish and civic communities, we will make recommendations to the Instructional Quality Commission during the public comment period. We’d like to thank the CDE staff for their efforts, and State Superintendent Tony Thurmond for engaging and listening to our community’s concerns.”

JCRC of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin, Sonoma, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties is the central public affairs arm of the organized Jewish community and represents more than 60 synagogues and Jewish organizations on critical issues affecting the Bay Area Jewish community.

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