WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT H. 4325

Every student should have the right to receive an accurate and inclusive education. Truthful and inclusive discussions about United States and South Carolina history, as well as current events pertaining to ongoing race and gender inequalities, are essential to quality academic instruction.

Critical Race Theory Definition

A graduate-level academic and legal framework that denotes that systemic racism is part of American society — from education and housing to employment and healthcare.

Critical Race Theory recognizes that racism is more than the result of individual bias and prejudice.

Inaccurate Critical Race Theory Definition Under H. 4325

Teaching that:

- Any sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, or national origin is inherently superior or inferior.
- Individuals should be adversely treated on the basis of their sex, ethnicity, religion, color, or national origin.
- Individuals, by virtue of sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color or national origin, are inherently responsible for actions committed in the past by other members of the same sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, or national origin.

This bill may prevent public school districts, public schools, and public colleges and universities in South Carolina from offering instruction related to “critical race theory” or compelling students to personally affirm, adopt, or adhere to the tenets of “critical race theory.” The bill inaccurately defines “critical race theory” in a manner that may pose far-reaching consequences across South Carolina classrooms.

This vague and overly broad legislation may have significant impacts in our schools. It may limit students’ and educators’ freedom of speech, the free exchange of ideas, and classroom discourse. This bill’s potential silencing of honest discussions about history denies the experiences of Black people, other people of color, women, and LGBTQ+ individuals.

Defend South Carolina educators, students, and truth in education by voting NO on H. 4325.