

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO REVERSE ITS REJECTION OF AN ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSE COVERING AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES IN STATE HIGH SCHOOLS; OPPOSING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S POSITION THAT THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSE COVERING AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES WILL INDOCTRINATE STUDENTS TO A POLITICAL AGENDA, AND SUPPORTING THE NEED FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES ON AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES; AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the College Board submitted an Advanced Placement ("AP") course covering African American Studies to the Florida Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, AP courses are rigorous high school courses that may count for college credit in addition to high school credit, upon successful completion of the AP exam; and

WHEREAS, the AP curriculum for each of the diverse subjects is created for the College Board by a panel of experts and college level educators in the specified academic discipline; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Board of Education rejected the AP course covering African American Studies claiming that it lacks educational value; and

WHEREAS, Florida's Commissioner of Education Manny Diaz Jr. stated "Florida rejected an AP course filled with Critical Race theory and other obvious violations of Florida Law"; and

WHEREAS, while denying the educational value of a course focusing on the history and culture of African Americans, the Florida Department of Education approved the following AP courses and exams which focus on the history and culture of specific demographics: AP European History, AP Chinese Language and Culture, AP French Language and Culture, AP German Language and Culture, AP Italian Language and Culture, AP Japanese Language and Culture, AP Spanish Language and Culture; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Key West support Florida's high schools' ability to provide AP courses covering African American studies; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the Key West City Commission urges the Florida Department of Education to reverse its rejection of the AP course on African American Studies.

Section 2: That the City Commission opposes the Department of Education's position that an Advanced Placement Course covering African American Studies would indoctrinate students to a political agenda, and supports the need for Advanced Placement Courses on African American Studies.

Section 3: That the City Clerk is hereby authorized to send a certified copy of this resolution to the Florida Department of Education and the Office of Governor Ron Desantis.

Section 4: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held this _____ day of _____, 2023.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on _____ day of _____, 2023.

Filed with the Clerk on _____, 2023.

Mayor Teri Johnston	_____
Vice Mayor Sam Kaufman	_____
Commissioner Lissette Carey	_____
Commissioner Mary Lou Hoover	_____
Commissioner Clayton Lopez	_____
Commissioner Billy Wardlow	_____
Commissioner Jimmy Weekley	_____

TERI JOHNSTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK