

Tom Horne  
Superintendent

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## ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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For more information contact Tom Horne (602) 542-5460

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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### **SUPERINTENDENT TOM HORNE ANNOUNCES BILL TO BE INTRODUCED TO PROHIBIT ETHNIC STUDIES**

PHOENIX (Friday, June 12, 2009) -- State Superintendent Tom Horne announced that a bill will be offered in the state Senate next Tuesday to prohibit ethnic studies in Arizona public schools.

Horne stated: "Traditionally, the American public school system has brought together students from different backgrounds and taught them to be Americans and to treat each other as individuals, and not on the basis of their ethnic backgrounds. This is consistent with the fundamental American value that we are all individuals, and not exemplars of whatever ethnic groups we were born into. Ethnic studies programs teach the opposite, and are designed to promote ethnic chauvinism. I have tried for two years, using publicity and persuasion, to attempt to convince the Tucson Unified School District to put a stop to this dysfunctional program. They have refused. The next step is legislation."

A copy of the bill to be introduced next Tuesday in the Senate Judiciary Committee is attached. Also attached is Tom Horne's Open Letter to the Citizens of Tucson dated June 11, 2007. This open letter contains considerable detail to what is being taught in the ethnic studies courses.

State Representative Steve Montenegro, a Latino legislator, will support the bill in the House of Representatives

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