

# **HOUSE BILL ANALYSIS**

## **HB 1481**

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**Title:** *An act relating to censorship by school districts.*

**Brief Description:** *Prohibiting censorship of United States and Washington history.*

**Sponsors:** *Representatives Sherstad, Mulliken, Dunn and Smith.*

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### **HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**Meeting Date:** *February 11, 1997.*

**Bill Analysis Prepared by:** *Joe Hauth (786-7111).*

**Background:** Schools must provide instruction in the history of the United States. Also, in fulfilling high school graduation requirements, public and private high school students must study the United States Constitution and the Washington State Constitution.

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution and article 1, section 5 of the Washington State Constitution protect the freedom of speech. The freedom of speech, however, is not absolute. The constitutional permissibility of a regulation affecting speech depends upon a number of factors, including: