

**As Reported by the Senate Education Committee
CORRECTED VERSION**

124th General Assembly

Regular Session

2001-2002

Sub. H. B. No. 394

REPRESENTATIVES Damschroder, Barrett, Calvert, Carey, Collier, Flowers, Hoops, Jolivette, Key, Latell, Latta, Lendrum, Metzger, Niehaus, Otterman, Patton, Roman, Schmidt, Seaver, Seitz, Setzer, Webster, White, Young, Callender, Reinhard, Fedor, Reidelbach, Faber, Aslanides, Manning, McGregor, Wolpert, Hughes, G. Smith, Olman, Gilb, Clancy, Carmichael, Hagan, Willamowski, Grendell, Kearns, Core, Fessler, Widowfield, Husted, Williams, DeWine, Schaffer, Raga, Schneider, Schuring, Evans, Buehrer, Distel, Cirelli, Peterson, Coates, Ogg, Rhine, Krupinski, Allen
SENATOR Mumper

A B I L L

To amend section 3313.601 of the Revised Code to 1
permit the board of education of a school district 2
to provide for a period of silence each school day 3
for reflection or meditation upon a moral, 4
philosophical, or patriotic theme; to prohibit 5
boards of education, schools, or employees of the 6
school district from requiring a pupil to 7
participate in such a period of silence; and to 8
prohibit the board of education of a school 9
district from adopting certain policies pertaining 10
to religion or religious expression. 11

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 3313.601 of the Revised Code be 12

amended to read as follows:

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Sec. 3313.601. The board of education of each school district
may provide for a period of silence each school day for reflection
or meditation upon a moral, philosophical, or patriotic theme. No
board of education, school, or employee of the school district
shall require a pupil to participate in a period of silence
provided for pursuant to this section. No board of education shall
prohibit a classroom teacher from providing in ~~his~~ the teacher's
classroom reasonable periods of time for ~~programs or meditation~~
~~upon~~ activities of a moral, philosophical, or patriotic theme. No
pupil shall be required to participate in such ~~programs or~~
~~meditations~~ activities if they are contrary to the religious
convictions of the pupil or ~~his~~ the pupil's parents or guardians.

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No board of education of a school district shall adopt any
policy or rule respecting or promoting an establishment of
religion or prohibiting any pupil from the free, individual, and
voluntary exercise or expression of the pupil's religious beliefs
in any primary or secondary school. The board of education may
limit the exercise or expression of the pupil's religious beliefs
as described in this section to lunch periods or other
noninstructional time periods when pupils are free to associate.

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Section 2. That existing section 3313.601 of the Revised Code
is hereby repealed.

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