

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to patriotic programs in the
3 public schools; amending s. 233.0655, F.S.;
4 requiring programs of a patriotic nature;
5 requiring district school board rules;
6 providing an effective date.

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8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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10 Section 1. Section 233.0655, Florida Statutes, is
11 amended to read:

12 233.0655 Patriotic programs; rules.--Each district
13 school board shall ~~is authorized to~~ adopt rules to require, in
14 all of the schools of the district, programs of a patriotic
15 nature to encourage greater respect for the government of the
16 United States and its national anthem and flag, subject always
17 to other existing pertinent laws of the United States or of
18 the state. The rules shall require, ~~provided,~~ that when the
19 national anthem is played, students and all civilians shall
20 stand at attention, men removing the headdress, except when
21 such headdress is worn for religious purposes. The rules shall
22 require, ~~and provided, further,~~ that the pledge of allegiance
23 to the flag, "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United
24 States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one
25 nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for
26 all," shall be recited at the beginning of the day in each
27 elementary, middle, and secondary public school in the school
28 district and shall be rendered by students standing with the
29 right hand over the heart. ~~The pledge of allegiance to the~~
30 ~~flag, as stated herein, shall be recited at the beginning of~~
31 ~~the day in each elementary and secondary public school in the~~

1 ~~state~~. Each student shall be informed by posting a notice in a
2 conspicuous place that the student has the right not to
3 participate in reciting the pledge. Upon written request by
4 his or her parent or guardian, the student must be excused
5 from reciting the pledge. When the pledge is given, civilians
6 must show full respect to the flag by standing at attention,
7 men removing the headdress, except when such headdress is worn
8 for religious purposes, as provided by Pub. L. ch. 77-435, s.
9 7, approved June 22, 1942, 56 Stat. 377, as amended by Pub. L.
10 ch. 77-806, 56 Stat. 1074, approved December 22, 1942.

11 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
12 law.

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15 HOUSE SUMMARY

16 Provides that each district school board shall adopt
17 rules to require programs of a patriotic nature in all
18 public schools in the district.

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