

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to public schools; amending s.  
3           233.062, F.S.; directing the superintendent of  
4           schools to provide for the display of various  
5           historical documents in a prominent location in  
6           public schools; authorizing the display of s.  
7           1, Art. IX of the Florida Constitution in  
8           public schools; authorizing the display of s.  
9           2, Art. I of the Florida Constitution in public  
10          schools; providing an effective date.

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

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14           Section 1. Section 233.062, Florida Statutes, is  
15 amended to read:

16           233.062 Permitting study of the Bible and religion;  
17 permitting brief meditation period; display of motto and  
18 constitution.--

19           (1) The school board may install in the public schools  
20 in the district a secular program of education including, but  
21 not limited to, an objective study of the Bible and of  
22 religion.

23           (2) The school board may provide that a brief period,  
24 not to exceed 2 minutes, for the purpose of silent prayer or  
25 meditation be set aside at the start of each school day or  
26 each school week in the public schools in the district.

27           (3) The superintendent of schools in each school  
28 district shall provide for the display in a prominent location  
29 within each school under his or her supervision of the motto  
30 of the United States of America, "IN GOD WE TRUST," on an

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1 appropriately framed background with minimum dimensions of 11  
2 inches by 14 inches.

3 (4) The superintendent of schools in each school  
4 district may provide for the display in a prominent location  
5 within each school under his or her supervision of s. 1, Art.  
6 IX of the Florida Constitution providing for public education:  
7 "The education of children is a fundamental value of the  
8 people of the State of Florida. It is, therefore, a paramount  
9 duty of the state to make adequate provision for the education  
10 of all children residing within its borders. Adequate  
11 provision shall be made by law for a uniform, efficient, safe,  
12 secure, and high quality system of free public schools that  
13 allows students to obtain a high quality education and for the  
14 establishment, maintenance, and operation of institutions of  
15 higher learning and other public education programs that the  
16 needs of the people may require." The display of s. 1, Art. IX  
17 of the Florida Constitution shall be posted in a separate  
18 place from the display of the national motto and shall be on  
19 an appropriately framed background with minimum dimensions of  
20 11 inches by 14 inches.

21 233.062 Permitting study of the Bible and religion;  
22 permitting brief meditation period; display of motto and  
23 constitution.--

24 (1) The school board may install in the public schools  
25 in the district a secular program of education including, but  
26 not limited to, an objective study of the Bible and of  
27 religion.

28 (2) The school board may provide that a brief period,  
29 not to exceed 2 minutes, for the purpose of silent prayer or  
30 meditation be set aside at the start of each school day or  
31 each school week in the public schools in the district.

1           (3) The superintendent of schools in each school  
2 district shall provide for the display in a prominent location  
3 within each school under his or her supervision of the motto  
4 of the United States of America, "IN GOD WE TRUST," on an  
5 appropriately framed background with minimum dimensions of 11  
6 inches by 14 inches.

7           (4) The superintendent of schools in each school  
8 district may provide for the display in a prominent location  
9 within each school under his or her supervision of s. 2, Art.  
10 I of the Florida Constitution providing for basic rights: "All  
11 natural persons, female and male alike, are equal before the  
12 law and have inalienable rights, among which are the right to  
13 enjoy and defend life and liberty, to pursue happiness, to be  
14 rewarded for industry, and to acquire, possess and protect  
15 property; except that the ownership, inheritance, disposition  
16 and possession of real property by aliens ineligible for  
17 citizenship may be regulated or prohibited by law. No person  
18 shall be deprived of any right because of race, religion,  
19 national origin, or physical disability." The display of s. 2,  
20 Art. I of the Florida Constitution shall be posted in a  
21 separate place from the display of the national motto and  
22 shall be on an appropriately framed background with minimum  
23 dimensions of 11 inches by 14 inches.

24           233.062 Permitting study of the Bible and religion;  
25 permitting brief meditation period; display of historical  
26 documents.--

27           (1) The school board may install in the public schools  
28 in the district a secular program of education including, but  
29 not limited to, an objective study of the Bible and of  
30 religion.  
31

1           (2) The school board may provide that a brief period,  
2 not to exceed 2 minutes, for the purpose of silent prayer or  
3 meditation be set aside at the start of each school day or  
4 each school week in the public schools in the district.

5           (3) The superintendent of schools in each school  
6 district shall provide for the display in a prominent location  
7 within each school under his or her supervision the following  
8 items each on an appropriately framed background:

9           (a) The motto of the United States of America, "In God  
10 We Trust."

11           (b) The Federalist Paper No. 34.

12           (c) The Preamble to the Constitution of the United  
13 States.

14           (d) The Declaration of Independence.

15           (e) The Bill of Rights.

16           (f) Washington's Farewell Address.

17           (g) The Gettysburg Address.

18           (h) The Magna Carta.

19           Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
20 law.