

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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Representative Sobel offered the following:

Amendment (with directory and title amendments)

Remove line(s) 10-34, and insert:

Section 1. (1) This section is intended to provide guidance to local school districts in complying with section 9524 of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Section 9524 requires local public schools to certify to the State Board of Education that they have no policies that prevent, or otherwise deny participation in, constitutionally protected prayer.

(2) In addition to those provisions contained in the Florida School Code, public school students and employees have the right to pray individually or in groups or to discuss their religious views with their peers so long as they are not disruptive. In the classroom, students have the right to pray

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28 quietly except when required to be actively engaged in school
29 activities. In informal settings, such as in the cafeteria or in
30 the halls, students and employees may pray audibly or silently,
31 subject to the same rules of order as apply to other speech in
32 these locations.

33 (3) Public school assembly rooms that are available for
34 noncurricular group meetings must be available to groups that
35 meet for religious purposes on the same basis as they are to
36 other groups.

37 (4) The right to engage in voluntary prayer does not
38 include the right to have a captive audience listen to, or to
39 compel other public school students to participate in, such
40 prayer.

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42 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

43 Remove line(s) 2-6, and insert:

44 An act relating to education; providing guidance to school
45 districts on complying with federal law governing prayer in
46 schools; providing an effective date.