

CHAMBER ACTION

1 The Choice & Innovation Committee recommends the following:

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3 **Council/Committee Substitute**

4 Remove the entire bill and insert:

5 A bill to be entitled

6 An act relating to education; authorizing individual
7 district school boards by resolution to allow an
8 inspirational message at specified secondary school-
9 related events; providing requirements; providing
10 legislative intent; providing severability; providing an
11 effective date.

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

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15 Section 1. Any district school board is authorized to
16 adopt a resolution allowing the use of an inspirational message,
17 including an invocation or a benediction, at a secondary school
18 commencement exercise or a secondary school-related
19 noncompulsory student assembly. The resolution must provide:

20 (1) That the use of an inspirational message shall be at
21 the discretion of the students.

22 (2) That an inspirational message, if used, shall be given
23 by a student volunteer.

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24 (3) That school personnel shall not participate in or
25 otherwise influence the exercise of the discretion of the
26 students in the determination of whether to use an inspirational
27 message.

28 Section 2. The purpose of this act to provide for the
29 solemnization and memorialization of secondary school events and
30 ceremonies, and this act is not intended to advance or endorse
31 any religion or religious belief.

32 Section 3. If any provision of this act or the application
33 thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
34 invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of
35 the act that can be given effect without the invalid provision
36 or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are
37 declared severable.

38 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.