

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to education; authorizing individual
 3 district school boards by resolution to allow an
 4 inspirational message at specified secondary school-
 5 related events; providing requirements; providing
 6 legislative intent; providing severability; providing an
 7 effective date.

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

10
 11 Section 1. Any district school board is authorized to
 12 adopt a resolution allowing the use of an inspirational message,
 13 including an invocation or a benediction, at a secondary school
 14 commencement exercise or a secondary school-related
 15 noncompulsory student assembly. The resolution must provide
 16 that:

17 (1) The use of an inspirational message shall be at the
 18 discretion of the students.

19 (2) An inspirational message, if used, shall be given by a
 20 student volunteer.

21 (3) School personnel shall not participate in or otherwise
 22 influence the exercise of the discretion of the students in the
 23 determination of whether to use an inspirational message.

24 Section 2. The purpose of this act is to provide for the
 25 solemnization and memorialization of secondary school events and
 26 ceremonies. This act is not intended to advance or endorse any
 27 religion or religious belief.

HB 1591

2007

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

34 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.