



822392

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
01/13/2012	.	
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The Committee on Judiciary (Simmons) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Any district school board may adopt a resolution allowing the use of an inspirational message, including, but not limited to, prayers of invocation or benediction, at secondary school commencement exercises or any other noncompulsory student assembly. The resolution must provide that:

(1) The use of an inspirational message is at the discretion of the student government.

(2) All inspirational messages will be given by student volunteers, and the content of any inspirational message will be



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14 at the discretion of the student volunteer.

15 (3) School personnel may not:

16 (a) Participate in, or otherwise influence any student in,
17 determining whether to use a prayer of invocation or benediction
18 as an inspirational message;

19 (b) Participate in selecting which student volunteer will
20 give an inspirational message; or

21 (c) Influence the content of an inspirational message.

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

26 Section 3. If any provision of this act or its application
27 to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity
28 does not affect other provisions or applications of the act
29 which can be given effect without the invalid provision or
30 application, and to this end the provisions of this act are
31 severable.

32 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

33
34 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

35 And the title is amended as follows:

36 Delete everything before the enacting clause
37 and insert:

38 A bill to be entitled
39 An act relating to education; authorizing district
40 school boards to adopt resolutions that allow
41 inspirational messages, including, but not limited to,
42 prayers of invocation or benediction, at secondary



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43 school events; providing requirements to be included
44 in the resolution; providing legislative intent;
45 providing for severability; providing an effective
46 date.