

1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to political activities on school  
3 grounds; creating s. 104.315, F.S.; providing  
4 definitions; providing that certain activities are  
5 allowed on school grounds; authorizing candidates to  
6 be invited to speak as candidates on school grounds if  
7 certain conditions are met; prohibiting certain  
8 political activities on school grounds; prohibiting  
9 certain employees from using e-mail, offices, or time  
10 during working hours for political advocacy; providing  
11 criminal penalties for persons who violate specified  
12 provisions; providing that each such violation is a  
13 separate offense; providing an effective date.

14  
15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

16  
17 **Section 1. Section 104.315, Florida Statutes, is created**  
18 **to read:**

19 104.315 Political activities on school grounds.—

20 (1) As used in this section, the term:

21 (a) "Candidate" has the same meaning as in s. 97.021 and  
22 includes a declared candidate, an incumbent who is presumed to  
23 be a future candidate, and any person whose possible candidacy  
24 is the subject of intense public speculation. The term does not  
25 include a person acting within his or her individual capacity

26 who does not speak about politics or a campaign.

27 (b) "Public office" includes any elective office.

28 (c) "School grounds" means the buildings and grounds of  
29 any public K-12 school or public institution of higher education  
30 as defined in s. 1004.097(2).

31 (2) The following activities are allowed on school  
32 grounds:

33 (a) Candidate forums or debates at which all qualified  
34 candidates for the office are invited.

35 (b) Use of facilities on the same terms and conditions,  
36 including, but not limited to, financial, as are required of  
37 other users of such facilities.

38 (c) Political advertisements under the same terms,  
39 including, but not limited to, financial, as are applied to  
40 other advertisements from outside groups allowed on school  
41 grounds.

42 (d) Student newspaper editorials or candidate endorsements  
43 that include a disclaimer that the opinion is solely that of the  
44 author and is not the opinion or endorsement of the school or  
45 institution.

46 (e) Voter registration and education events that do not  
47 involve a campaign or political party.

48 (f) Inviting a candidate to speak in his or her individual  
49 capacity, but not as a candidate; however, such person may not  
50 speak about a campaign or any political issues.

51       (3) A candidate may be invited to speak in his or her  
52 capacity as a candidate on school grounds only if:

53       (a) All other candidates are invited to speak on school  
54 grounds. Such invitations do not need to be for the same event,  
55 place, or time, but must be similar events that take place at  
56 similar times. Documentation of such invitations must be  
57 preserved.

58       (b) The introduction of such candidate includes a  
59 disclaimer that the school or institution does not endorse any  
60 candidate for public office.

61       (4) The following political activities are prohibited on  
62 school grounds:

63       (a) Posting campaign signs.

64       (b) Distributing campaign literature.

65       (c) Campaigning for or with candidates.

66       (d) Any activity that may be reasonably expected to give  
67 the impression of support or endorsement of any particular  
68 candidate over another candidate.

69       (e) Collecting campaign donations or contributions.

70       (f) Voter registration events that involve a candidate or  
71 political party.

72       (5) A faculty or staff member of any K-12 public school or  
73 public institution of higher education as defined in s.  
74 1004.097(2) may not use e-mail, offices, or time during working  
75 hours for political advocacy.

76        (6) (a) A person who violates this section commits a  
77 misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.  
78 775.082 or s. 775.083.

79        (b) Each such violation is a separate offense.

80        **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.