

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 44th Legislature (1994)

HOUSE BILL NO. 2340

By: Smith (Bill)

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 1991, Sections 11-101 and 11-101.1, which relate to prayer in school; authorizing school districts to hold special elections on the question of prayer and other religious activities on and off school property; specifying procedures for the calling of such elections; prohibiting preferential treatment; requiring equal time for all views; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 1991, Section 11-101, is amended to read as follows:

Section 11-101. No sectarian or religious doctrine shall be taught or inculcated in any of the public schools of this state, but nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit ~~the reading of the Holy Scriptures~~ any activity authorized by Section 11-101.1 of this title or any activity authorized by federal law.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 1991, Section 11-101.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 11-101.1 ~~The~~ When approved by a majority of the electors of a school district voting on the question at a special

election called for that purpose by the board of education by their own initiative or upon petition initiated by not less than fifteen percent (15%) of the qualified electors of that school district based on the total number of votes cast at the last general election, the board of education of each the school district shall permit those students and teachers who wish to do so to participate in voluntary prayer and other religious activities on the property of the school and at activities sponsored by the school on or off school property. No religion shall have any preference over any other religion. Each person professing a religion and each person professing disbelief in religion shall be given equal time to voice such person's views during any activity when prayer or other religious activities are presented. Nothing in this act section shall be construed to be in conflict with Section 11-101 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective September 1, 1994.

44-2-8162

MCD