

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 44th Legislature (1993)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1002

By: Smith (Bill)

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution memorializing Congress to propose a constitutional amendment for ratification by the states which would allow the states to regulate voluntary prayer in public schools; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution protects individual religious freedom by prohibiting the establishment of government-sponsored religion and by guaranteeing an individual's right to express their own religious beliefs in a manner they so choose; and

WHEREAS, the right to worship as we so choose is the very basis of our nation and is one of the fundamental rights which Americans throughout the years have fought to preserve; and

WHEREAS, certain actions taken to ensure that an individual is protected from the coercive effect of a state-sponsored religious activity in effect limit that individual's right to religious expression; and

WHEREAS, the right to express one's religious beliefs through prayer is a right of expression which is sacred and is therefore worthy of every effort to protect that right from being diminished; and

WHEREAS, the law as interpreted by the United States Supreme Court no longer allows an individual unrestricted religious expression through prayer in a public school setting; and

WHEREAS, people everywhere are voicing their concern over this state of the law and are calling for the restoration of their rights unburdened by the limitations placed upon them.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 44TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature respectfully memorializes the Congress of the United States to propose an amendment to the United States Constitution, for ratification by the states, specifying that the states shall have the power to regulate voluntary prayer in public schools.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and all members of the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation.