

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1275

By: Graves

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; allowing district boards of education to authorize the reading or posting of certain writings, documents and records in certain locations and at certain events; prohibiting certain censorship; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 24-106.1 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The board of education of any school district in this state may authorize any teacher or administrator employed by that district to read or post in any school building or classroom at such teacher's or administrator's school or at any event sponsored by that school any excerpt or portion of:

1. The national anthem;
2. The national motto;
3. The pledge of allegiance;
4. The preamble to the Oklahoma Constitution;
5. The Declaration of Independence;

6. The Mayflower Compact;
7. The writings, speeches, documents and proclamations of the founding fathers and presidents of the United States;
8. United States Supreme Court decisions;
9. Acts of the United States Congress, including but not limited to the published text of the Congressional Record; and
10. Federalist Papers.

There shall be no content-based censorship of American history or heritage in this state based on religious references in the writings, documents or records as specified in this section.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

46-1-6050

MCD