

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1260 Session of  
2007

INTRODUCED BY SCHRODER, BAKER, BENNINGHOFF, BOYD, COX,  
CREIGHTON, EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, GABIG, GEIST,  
HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HICKERNELL, HORNAMAN, M. KELLER,  
KIRKLAND, KORTZ, MILNE, MURT, MUSTIO, MYERS, O'NEILL,  
PICKETT, PYLE, QUINN, RAPP, READSHAW, REICHLEY, ROAE, ROHRER,  
SAYLOR, SONNEY, STABACK, STERN, SWANGER AND VULAKOVICH,  
MAY 18, 2007

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MAY 18, 2007

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An  
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain  
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial  
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the  
5 laws relating thereto," further providing for display of  
6 United States flag and development of patriotism.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Section 771 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30,  
10 No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by  
11 adding a subsection to read:

12 Section 771. Display of United States Flag; Development of  
13 Patriotism.--\* \* \*

14 (e) (1) No teacher or administrator in a public school  
15 entity shall be prohibited from using or reading from, during  
16 the course of educational instruction, or from posting in a  
17 public school building, classroom or event, any of the following

1 or any excerpts or portions of the following:

2 (i) The national motto.

3 (ii) The national anthem.

4 (iii) The Pledge of Allegiance.

5 (iv) The Constitution of the United States and the  
6 Constitution of Pennsylvania.

7 (v) The Declaration of Independence.

8 (vi) The writings, speeches, documents and proclamations of  
9 the founders or Presidents of the United States or the founders  
10 or Governors of Pennsylvania.

11 (vii) Opinions of the United States Supreme Court and  
12 Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

13 (viii) Acts of the United States Congress and acts of the  
14 Pennsylvania General Assembly.

15 (ix) Other historically significant or venerated documents,  
16 writings or records.

17 (2) The use, reading or posting of the types of documents,  
18 writings and records authorized by this section shall be  
19 undertaken for educational purposes only and shall not be used,  
20 read from or posted to promote or establish any religion or  
21 religious belief.

22 (3) No person may impose content-based censorship of an  
23 American or Pennsylvanian historical document, writing or record  
24 based on any religious references contained in such document,  
25 writing or record.

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.