

AN ACT relating to the recitation of the United States Pledge of Allegiance.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. KRS 158.175 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) As a continuation of the policy of teaching our country's history and as an affirmation of the freedom of religion in this country, the board of education of a local school district may authorize the recitation of the traditional Lord's Prayer and **shall authorize the recitation of** the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag in public elementary schools. Pupil participation in the ~~recitations~~^{recitation} of the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance shall be voluntary. **Pupils not participating at their own request or that of their parents shall be given the option to sit or stand quietly during a recitation.** Pupils shall be reminded that this Lord's Prayer is the prayer our pilgrim fathers recited when they came to this country in their search for freedom. Pupils shall be informed that these exercises are not meant to influence an individual's personal religious beliefs in any manner. The exercises shall be conducted so that pupils shall learn of our great freedoms, including the freedom of religion symbolized by the recitation of the Lord's Prayer.
- (2) The board of education of each school district shall establish a policy and develop procedures **for the daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States at the commencement of each school day** whereby the pupils in each elementary and secondary school may participate~~[in the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States at the commencement of each school day]~~. **The Pledge of Allegiance shall include the phrase "One nation, under God" in the daily recitation.**
- (3) **If a board of education is compelled by order of any court of competent jurisdiction to exclude the words "under God" from the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in its schools, the provisions of subsections (1) and (2) of this section relating to the pledge shall be void and its daily recitation in schools shall**

be prohibited.

- (4)** The Kentucky Board of Education shall develop a program of instruction relating to the flag of the United States of America, including instruction in etiquette, the correct use and display of the flag, and other patriotic exercises as may be related. This program of instruction shall be provided to each public school for use in its course of instruction. The program of instruction, at a minimum, shall include the provisions of 4 U.S.C. secs. 1 to 3 and 4 U.S.C. secs. 5 to 9.
- (5)**~~(4)~~ The board of education of each local school district may purchase or otherwise acquire and provide for display in each classroom copies of the Declaration of Independence, the Gettysburg Address, and other documents the local board deems significant to the history of Kentucky and the United States.
- (6)**~~(5)~~ At the commencement of the first class of each day in all public schools, the teacher in charge of the room may announce that a moment of silence or reflection not to exceed one (1) minute in duration shall be observed.