

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1351

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and the display of the American Flag in certain federally funded elementary and secondary schools, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 2025

Mr. STRONG (for himself, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. PALMER, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. HARRIS of Maryland, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BABIN, Mr. DOWNING, and Mr. ROSE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and the display of the American Flag in certain federally funded elementary and secondary schools, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Promoting American
5 Patriotism In Our Schools Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The American flag is a symbol of the unity,
4 liberty, and freedom of the United States of Amer-
5 ica.

6 (2) It is important to foster national pride and
7 a shared sense of civic responsibility among the
8 youth of the United States.

9 (3) The Pledge of Allegiance is a statement of
10 national commitment and serves as a reminder of
11 the values and principles upon which the nation was
12 founded.

13 (4) The inclusion of the American flag and the
14 Pledge of Allegiance in the daily activities of elemen-
15 tary and secondary school students serves to pro-
16 mote a sense of national identity and unity.

17 (5) Educating students about the history and
18 significance of the American flag, as well as encour-
19 aging a daily expression of patriotism, plays an im-
20 portant role in their development as responsible and
21 engaged citizens.

22 **SEC. 3. RECITATION OF THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND**
23 **DISPLAY OF AMERICAN FLAG IN SCHOOLS.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title VIII of the Elementary and
25 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801 et

1 seq.) is amended by inserting after section 8524 the fol-
2 lowing:

3 **“SEC. 8524A. RECITATION OF PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND**
4 **DISPLAY OF AMERICAN FLAG.**

5 “(a) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receiving funds
6 under this Act, a local educational agency shall establish,
7 maintain, and enforce a policy that requires the following:

8 “(1) Subject to subsection (b), all students,
9 teachers, and staff in covered schools shall recite the
10 Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United
11 States of America at the beginning of each school
12 day. The Pledge shall be recited in the exact form
13 and manner set forth in section 4 of title 4, United
14 States Code.

15 “(2) The flag of the United States of America
16 shall be prominently displayed in each classroom and
17 gymnasium of each covered school. Each such flag
18 shall be displayed in a manner that ensures it is visi-
19 ble to all occupants of the classroom or gymnasium
20 during the school day.

21 “(3) Educational materials on the history, sig-
22 nificance, and proper display of the flag of the
23 United States of America shall be incorporated into
24 the civics or history curriculum of each grade level
25 taught at each covered school. The materials shall be

1 age appropriate and promote understanding of the
2 values and principles represented by the flag.

3 “(b) EXCEPTION.—Each policy required under sub-
4 section (a) shall include an exception pursuant to which
5 an individual may refrain from reciting the Pledge of Alle-
6 giance for religious or personal reasons. No individual may
7 be penalized, discriminated against, or subjected to retal-
8 iatory action for exercising the option to refrain from reci-
9 tation of the Pledge of Allegiance in accordance with such
10 exception.

11 “(c) CERTIFICATION.—On an annual basis not later
12 than October 1 of each year, each local educational agency
13 subject to the requirements of this section shall certify in
14 writing to the State educational agency involved that the
15 local educational agency is in compliance with such re-
16 quirements. The State educational agency shall report to
17 the Secretary by November 1 of each year a list of those
18 local educational agencies that have not filed the certifi-
19 cation or against which complaints have been made to the
20 State educational agency that the local educational agen-
21 cies are not in compliance with this section.

22 “(d) ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary is authorized
23 and directed to effectuate this section by issuing, and se-
24 curing compliance with, rules or orders with respect to a
25 local educational agency that fails to certify, or is found

1 to have certified in bad faith, that the agency is in compli-
2 ance with the requirements of this section.

3 “(e) COVERED SCHOOL DEFINED.—In this section,
4 the term ‘covered school’ means a public elementary or
5 public secondary school that receives Federal funds under
6 this Act (whether directly or through a subgrant from a
7 State or local educational agency).”.

8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICABILITY.—The
9 amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect 180
10 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and shall
11 apply with respect to school years beginning on or after
12 such effective date.

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