

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By

1 AMEND House Committee Substitute for Senate Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for
2 Senate Bill No. 68, Page 39, Section 160.1055, Line 100, by inserting after all of the said section
3 and line the following:
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5 "160.2501. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Missouri Religious
6 Liberty in Schools Awareness Act".

7 2. Each public school shall post a statement containing the following or substantially similar
8 information:

The Missouri Religious Liberty in Schools Awareness Act requires
that students and employees of public schools that are operated at
public expense be advised and therefore, encouraged regarding
constitutional rights and liberties in the educational setting that are
assured by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution,
free from government coercion:

For public school students, such rights and liberties include, but are
not limited to, that a student may, in a manner that does not interrupt
or displace the educational mission of the public school:

Express the student's beliefs about religion to others;

Pray or engage in religious expression or read the Bible or other
religious texts or materials during free time including, but not limited
to, in the classroom;

When relevant to the subject matter, express the student's beliefs
about religion in a class assignment; and

Form, organize, and participate or refrain from participating in,
prayer groups, religious clubs and other religious gatherings if other
secular groups, clubs, and gatherings are permitted.

For public school employees, such rights and liberties include, but
are not limited to, that an employee may, in a manner that does not
interrupt or displace the educational mission of the public school:

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Respectfully discuss the employee's faith with other school employees;

When relevant to the subject matter, discuss the influence of religion on history and culture;

Enjoy the accommodation of the employee's religious beliefs as required by law;

Sponsor student religious clubs if secular student clubs are sponsored; and

Enjoy freedom from religious discrimination as provided by law.

3. (1) The statement required to be posted under this section shall be posted in a prominent location in each of such public school's buildings in which the academic instruction of students actually and regularly occurs.

(2) Such statement shall be posted in a similar form and manner as other information required by law is posted.

4. The provisions of this section shall be construed to be consistent and in conjunction with section 160.2500."; and

Further amend said bill, Page 41, Section 160.2710, Line 10, by inserting after all of the said section and line the following:

~~"[161.026. 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 161.032 or any other provision of law, the governor shall, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, appoint a teacher representative to the state board of education, who shall attend all meetings and participate in all deliberations of the board. The teacher representative shall not have the right to vote on any matter before the board or be counted in establishing a quorum under section 161.082.~~

~~2. The teacher representative shall be an active classroom teacher. For purposes of this section, "active classroom teacher" means a resident of the state of Missouri who is a full-time teacher with at least five years of teaching experience in the state of Missouri, who is certified to teach under the laws governing the certification of teachers in Missouri, and who is not on leave at the time of the appointment to the position of teacher representative. The teacher representative shall have the written support of the local school board prior to accepting the appointment.~~

~~3. The term of the teacher representative shall be four years, and appointments made under this section shall be made in rotation from each congressional district beginning with the first congressional district and continuing in numerical order.~~

~~4. If a vacancy occurs for any reason in the position of teacher representative, the governor shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, a replacement for the unexpired term. Such replacement shall be a resident of the same congressional district as the teacher representative being replaced, shall meet the qualifications set forth under subsection 2 of this section, and shall serve until his or her successor is appointed and qualified.~~

~~5. If the teacher representative ceases to be an active classroom teacher, as defined under subsection 2 of this section, or fails to follow the board's attendance policy, the teacher representative's position shall immediately become vacant unless an absence is caused by sickness or some accident preventing the representative's arrival at the time and place appointed for the~~

meeting.

~~6. The teacher representative shall receive the same reimbursement for expenses as members of the state board of education receive under section 161.022.~~

~~7. At no time shall more than one nonvoting member serve on the state board of education.~~

~~8. The provisions of this section shall expire on August 28, 2026.]~~

161.026. 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 161.032 or any other provision of law, the governor shall, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, appoint a teacher representative to the state board of education who shall attend all meetings and participate in all deliberations of the board. The teacher representative shall not have the right to vote on any matter before the board or be counted in establishing a quorum under section 161.082.

2. The teacher representative shall be an active classroom teacher. For purposes of this section, "active classroom teacher" means a resident of the state of Missouri who is a full-time teacher with at least five years of teaching experience in the state of Missouri, who is certified to teach under the laws governing the certification of teachers in Missouri, and who is not on leave at the time of the appointment to the position of teacher representative. The teacher representative shall have the written support of the local school board prior to accepting the appointment.

3. The term of the teacher representative shall be four years, and ~~[appointments made under this section shall be made in rotation from each congressional district beginning with the first congressional district and continuing in numerical order]~~ for the second and succeeding appointments, the newly appointed teacher representative shall not be appointed from the same congressional district as the two immediately preceding teacher representatives.

4. If a vacancy occurs for any reason in the position of teacher representative, the governor shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, a replacement for the unexpired term. Such replacement shall be a resident of the same congressional district as the teacher representative being replaced, shall meet the qualifications set forth under subsection 2 of this section, and shall serve until his or her successor is appointed and qualified. If the general assembly is not in session at the time for making an appointment, the governor shall make a temporary appointment until the next session of the general assembly, when the governor shall nominate a person to fill the position of teacher representative.

5. If the teacher representative ceases to be an active classroom teacher, as defined under subsection 2 of this section, or fails to follow the board's attendance policy, the teacher representative's position shall immediately become vacant unless an absence is caused by sickness or some accident preventing the teacher representative's arrival at the time and place appointed for the meeting.

6. The teacher representative shall receive the same reimbursement for expenses as members of the state board of education receive under section 161.022.

7. At no time shall more than one nonvoting member serve on the state board of education.

~~[8. The provisions of this section shall expire on August 28, 2025.];~~ and

Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references accordingly.