SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 692

91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR GROSS.

Pre-filed December 1, 2001, and 1,000 copies ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

3129S.01I

AN ACT

To amend chapter 160, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to moment of silence in schools.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 160, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 160.012, to read as follows:

- 160.012. 1. In order that the right of every pupil to the free exercise of religion be guaranteed within the schools and that the freedom of each individual pupil be subject to the least possible pressure from the state either to engage in, or to refrain from, religious observation on school grounds, the school board of each school shall establish the daily observance of one minute of silence in each classroom.
- 2. During such one-minute period of silence, the teacher responsible for each classroom shall take care that all pupils remain seated and silent and make no distracting display to the end that each pupil may, in the exercise of his or her individual choice, meditate, pray or engage in any other silent activity which does not interfere with, distract or impede other pupils in the like exercise of individual choice.