

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

[P E R F E C T E D]

SENATE BILL NO. 718

91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATORS HOUSE AND STEELMAN.

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

Read 2nd time January 14, 2002, and referred to the Committee on Education.

Reported from the Committee February 12, 2002, with recommendation that the bill do pass and be placed on the Consent Calendar.

Taken up February 25, 2002. Read 3rd time and placed upon its final passage; bill passed.

2797S.01P

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To repeal section 171.021, RSMo, relating to reciting the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the same subject.

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

Section A. Section 171.021, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 171.021, to read as follows:

171.021. **1.** Every school in this state which is supported in whole or in part by public moneys, during the hours while school is in session, shall display in some prominent place either upon the outside of the school building or upon a pole erected in the school yard the flag of the United States of America.

2. Every school in this state which is supported in whole or in part by public moneys shall ensure that the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America is recited in at least one scheduled class of every pupil enrolled in that school no less often than once per week. No student shall be required to recite the Pledge of Allegiance if that student or that student's parent or legal guardian expresses a conscientious objection to the classroom teacher or school principal.