

1 State of Arkansas
2 89th General Assembly
3 First Extraordinary Session, 2013
4

As Engrossed: H3/4/15
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1273

5 By: Representative Harris
6

7 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

8 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE VOLUNTARY STUDENT
9 EXPRESSION OF RELIGIOUS VIEWPOINTS IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL
10 DISTRICT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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13 **Subtitle**

14 TO PROVIDE FOR THE VOLUNTARY STUDENT
15 EXPRESSION OF RELIGIOUS VIEWPOINTS IN A
16 PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 1, is amended
22 to add an additional section to read as follows:

23 6-16-146. Student religious liberties.

24 (a) A public school district shall not:

25 (1) Discriminate against a student or a parent of a student on
26 the basis of the student's religious viewpoint or religious expression; or

27 (2) Prohibit a student from expressing a religious viewpoint or
28 belief in the student's coursework, artwork, or other written or oral
29 assignments.

30 (b) A public school district shall:

31 (1) Allow a student to voluntarily express a religious viewpoint
32 in his or her coursework, artwork, and other written or oral assignments; and

33 (2) Evaluate the coursework, artwork, or assignment according to
34 ordinary academic standards, relevance to the assignment, and whether or not
35 the coursework, artwork, or assignment meets the requirements of the assigned
36 task.



