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H.B. 117
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Reps. Richardson and Brennan

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SUMMARY

- Requires public schools to adopt a policy establishing a time and manner for the daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and make the policy publicly available.
- Encourages schools and teachers to develop and implement lessons related to the American Flag and Pledge of Allegiance.
- Entitles the bill “The Pledge of Allegiance Act.”

DETAILED ANALYSIS

The bill requires each school district, community school, STEM school, and college-preparatory boarding school to adopt a policy that establishes a time and manner for the daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in schools, and to make the policy publicly available, including posting it to its publicly available website if it has one. Under current law, districts are required to adopt a policy specifying whether the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance will be a part of the school’s program, and if so, to establish a time and manner for its recitation.

Furthermore, the bill encourages schools and teachers to develop and implement lessons that are related to the American Flag and the Pledge of Allegiance to promote excellent citizenship skills.

Under continuing law, the policy adopted cannot require any person to participate in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, and boards of education and district employees are prohibited from altering the words of the Pledge of Allegiance as established in federal law.¹

¹ R.C. 3313.6031 and 3313.602(A); see also 4 United States Code 4, not in the bill.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	02-24-25
