

As Introduced

135th General Assembly

Regular Session

2023-2024

H. B. No. 657

Representatives Pavliga, Richardson

Cosponsor: Representative Carruthers



A BILL

To amend section 3313.602 of the Revised Code to 1
enact the Transparency in Pledge of Allegiance 2
"T.I.P.A." Act to require each school district 3
to post its Pledge of Allegiance policy. 4

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 3313.602 of the Revised Code be 5
amended to read as follows: 6

Sec. 3313.602. (A) The board of education of each city, 7
local, exempted village, and joint vocational school district 8
shall adopt a policy specifying whether or not oral recitation 9
of the pledge of allegiance to the flag shall be a part of the 10
school's program and, if so, establishing a time and manner for 11
the recitation. However, no board of education shall prohibit a 12
classroom teacher from providing in the teacher's classroom 13
reasonable periods of time for the oral recitation of the pledge 14
of allegiance to the flag. The policy adopted under this 15
division, and a teacher who includes recitation of the pledge in 16
the classroom, shall not require any student to participate in 17
the recitation and shall prohibit the intimidation of any 18

student by other students or staff aimed at coercing 19
participation. 20

Each district board shall make its policy adopted under 21
this division publicly available. Each district board shall post 22
its policy on its publicly accessible web site, if it has one. 23

No board of education or employee of a city, local, 24
exempted village, or joint vocational school district shall 25
alter the words used in the oral recitation of the pledge of 26
allegiance to the flag from the words set forth in 4 U.S.C. 4. 27

(B) In the development of its graded course of study, the 28
board of education of each city and exempted village school 29
district and the governing board of each educational service 30
center shall ensure that the principles of democracy and ethics 31
are emphasized and discussed wherever appropriate in all parts 32
of the curriculum for grades kindergarten through twelve. 33

(C) Each city, local, exempted village, and joint 34
vocational school board shall adopt policies that encourage all 35
certificated and noncertificated employees to be cognizant of 36
their roles in instilling ethical principles and democratic 37
ideals in all district pupils. 38

(D) The board of education of each city, local, joint 39
vocational, chartered community, and exempted village school 40
district, and the Cleveland scholarship and tutoring program, 41
shall require each district school to devote time on or about 42
Veterans' day to an observance that conveys the meaning and 43
significance of that day. The amount of time each school devotes 44
to this observance shall be at least one hour or, in schools 45
that schedule class periods of less than one hour, at least one 46
standard class period. The board shall determine the specific 47

activities to constitute the observance in each school in the	48
district after consultation with the school's administrators.	49
Section 2. That existing section 3313.602 of the Revised	50
Code is hereby repealed.	51
Section 3. This act shall be known as the Transparency in	52
Pledge of Allegiance or "T.I.P.A." Act.	53