

1-1 By: Farney, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Schwertner) H.B. No. 773
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 29, 2013;
 1-3 April 29, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Education; May 10, 2013, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 10, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Patrick	X			
1-8 Lucio	X			
1-9 Campbell	X			
1-10 Duncan	X			
1-11 Paxton	X			
1-12 Seliger	X			
1-13 Taylor	X			
1-14 Van de Putte			X	
1-15 West	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to a requirement that students at an open-enrollment
 1-20 charter school recite the pledges of allegiance to the United
 1-21 States flag and the state flag.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Sections 25.082(b), (c), and (d), Education
 1-24 Code, are amended to read as follows:

1-25 (b) The board of trustees of each school district and the
 1-26 governing board of each open-enrollment charter school shall
 1-27 require students, once during each school day at each campus
 1-28 [~~school in the district~~], to recite:

1-29 (1) the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag
 1-30 in accordance with 4 U.S.C. Section 4[~~, and its subsequent~~
 1-31 ~~amendments~~]; and

1-32 (2) the pledge of allegiance to the state flag in
 1-33 accordance with Subchapter C, Chapter 3100, Government Code.

1-34 (c) On written request from a student's parent or guardian,
 1-35 a school district or open-enrollment charter school shall excuse
 1-36 the student from reciting a pledge of allegiance under Subsection
 1-37 (b).

1-38 (d) The board of trustees of each school district and the
 1-39 governing board of each open-enrollment charter school shall
 1-40 provide for the observance of one minute of silence at each campus
 1-41 [~~school in the district~~] following the recitation of the pledges of
 1-42 allegiance to the United States and Texas flags under Subsection
 1-43 (b). During the one-minute period, each student may, as the student
 1-44 chooses, reflect, pray, meditate, or engage in any other silent
 1-45 activity that is not likely to interfere with or distract another
 1-46 student. Each teacher or other school employee in charge of
 1-47 students during that period shall ensure that each of those
 1-48 students remains silent and does not act in a manner that is likely
 1-49 to interfere with or distract another student.

1-50 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2013-2014
 1-51 school year.

1-52 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 1-53 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 1-54 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 1-55 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 1-56 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

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