

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1202

To provide for a period of quiet reflection at the opening of certain schools
on every school day.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 2003

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. TANNER, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. FROST, Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. RENZI, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To provide for a period of quiet reflection at the opening
of certain schools on every school day.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Moment of Quiet Re-
5 flection in Schools Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) In today’s hectic society, all too few of the
 2 Nation’s citizens are able to experience even a mo-
 3 ment of quiet reflection before plunging headlong
 4 into the day’s activities.

5 (2) The Nation’s young citizens are particularly
 6 affected by this absence of an opportunity for a mo-
 7 ment of quiet reflection.

8 (3) The Nation’s youth, and society as a whole,
 9 would be well served if students were afforded a mo-
 10 ment of quiet reflection at the beginning of each day
 11 in the public schools.

12 **SEC. 3. MOMENT OF QUIET REFLECTION.**

13 The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
 14 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended by inserting
 15 after section 9536 the following:

16 **“SEC. 9537. MOMENT OF QUIET REFLECTION.**

17 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Each local educational agency
 18 receiving funds under this Act shall ensure that, at the
 19 opening of school on every school day, the teacher in
 20 charge of each classroom in each school served by the
 21 agency conducts a brief period of quiet reflection for not
 22 more than 60 seconds with the participation of all the stu-
 23 dents assembled in the classroom.

24 “(b) CONDUCT.—A period of quiet reflection under
 25 this section shall not be conducted as a religious service

1 or exercise, but shall be considered as an opportunity for
2 a moment of silent reflection on the anticipated activities
3 of the day.

4 “(c) CONSTRUCTION.—This section shall not be con-
5 strued as prohibiting or restricting constitutionally pro-
6 tected prayer.

7 “(d) CERTIFICATION.—As a condition of receiving
8 funds under this Act, a local educational agency shall cer-
9 tify in writing to the State involved that the agency is in
10 compliance with this section.”.

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