

# SENATE BILL No. 701

December 3, 2013, Introduced by Senators COLBECK, NOFS, PROOS, GREEN, CASWELL, BRANDENBURG and MARLEAU and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled  
"The revised school code,"  
(MCL 380.1 to 380.1852) by adding sections 1238 and 1259.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           SEC. 1238. (1) IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE A SCHOOL CULTURE THAT  
2 RESPECTS AND VALUES OUR CIVIC HERITAGE, THE BOARD OF A SCHOOL  
3 DISTRICT OR INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A  
4 PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SHALL ALLOW AND ENCOURAGE ANY PUBLIC SCHOOL  
5 TEACHER, EDUCATOR, OR ADMINISTRATOR TO READ OR POST IN A PUBLIC  
6 SCHOOL BUILDING, IN A CLASSROOM, OR AT ANY PUBLIC SCHOOL EVENT  
7 EXCERPTS OR PORTIONS OF WRITINGS, DOCUMENTS, AND RECORDS THAT  
8 REFLECT THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT

1 LIMITED TO, ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

2 (A) THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

3 (B) THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

4 (C) THE FEDERALIST PAPERS.

5 (D) THE ANTI-FEDERALIST PAPERS.

6 (E) THE BILL OF RIGHTS.

7 (F) THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES.

8 (G) THE NORTHWEST ORDINANCES.

9 (2) THIS SECTION AND SECTION 1259 SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE  
10 CONSTITUTING MICHIGAN-FOUNDING PRINCIPLES LAW.

11 SEC. 1259. (1) ON REAL PROPERTY THAT IT CONTROLS, A SCHOOL  
12 DISTRICT, INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY  
13 MAY DISPLAY DOCUMENTS AND OBJECTS OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE THAT  
14 HAVE FORMED AND INFLUENCED THE LEGAL SYSTEM OR REPUBLICAN FORM OF  
15 FREE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES BASED ON THE  
16 RULE OF LAW FOUND IN THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE  
17 BILL OF RIGHTS. THE DOCUMENTS AND OBJECTS THAT MAY BE DISPLAYED  
18 INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

19 (A) THE DOCUMENTS LISTED IN SECTION 1238.

20 (B) THE MAGNA CARTA.

21 (C) THE MAYFLOWER COMPACT.

22 (D) THE STATE CONSTITUTION OF 1963 OR ANOTHER CONSTITUTION OF  
23 THIS STATE.

24 (E) THE NATIONAL MOTTO.

25 (F) THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.

26 (G) THE WRITINGS, SPEECHES, DOCUMENTS, AND PROCLAMATIONS OF  
27 THE FOUNDING FATHERS AND PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

1           (H) ANOTHER DOCUMENT OR OBJECT OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE IN  
2 FORMING OR INFLUENCING THE UNITED STATES OR ITS LEGAL OR  
3 GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEM OR THAT EXEMPLIFIES THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RULE  
4 OF LAW.

5           (2) A DISPLAY DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) MAY INCLUDE, BUT  
6 SHALL NOT BE LIMITED TO, DOCUMENTS THAT CONTAIN WORDS ASSOCIATED  
7 WITH A RELIGION. HOWEVER, THE DISPLAY SHALL NOT SEEK TO ESTABLISH  
8 OR PROMOTE RELIGION OR OTHER PHILOSOPHY. THE DISPLAY OF A DOCUMENT  
9 CONTAINING WORDS ASSOCIATED WITH A RELIGION SHALL BE IN THE SAME  
10 MANNER AND APPEARANCE GENERALLY AS OTHER DOCUMENTS AND OBJECTS  
11 DISPLAYED AND SHALL NOT BE PRESENTED OR DISPLAYED IN ANY FASHION  
12 THAT RESULTS IN CALLING ATTENTION TO IT APART FROM THE OTHER  
13 DISPLAYED DOCUMENTS AND OBJECTS. THE DISPLAY ALSO SHALL BE  
14 ACCOMPANIED BY A PROMINENT SIGN QUOTING THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE  
15 CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AS FOLLOWS: "CONGRESS SHALL MAKE  
16 NO LAW RESPECTING AN ESTABLISHMENT OF RELIGION, OR PROHIBITING THE  
17 FREE EXERCISE THEREOF; OR ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH, OR OF  
18 THE PRESS; OR THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE PEACEABLY TO ASSEMBLE, AND TO  
19 PETITION THE GOVERNMENT FOR A REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES.".

20           (3) THIS SECTION AND SECTION 1238 SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE  
21 CONSTITUTING MICHIGAN-FOUNDING PRINCIPLES LAW.