

HB

192

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

REPRESENTATIVE
JEANNETTE JAMES
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While in Juneau
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Juneau, Alaska
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House of Representatives
House District 34

To: Senator Jerry Ward, Chair
Senate State Affairs Committee

From: Representative Jeannette James

Date: February 10, 2000

Subject: Request for changes to be made for committee
substitute

Please consider the following changes to this legislation:

1. Delete section 2. Section two is redundant and unneeded.
2. Change "regularly, as determined by the governing body." in lines 7 and 8 to "daily."

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House of Representatives
House District 34

To: Senator Jerry Ward,
Chair, Senate State Affairs Committee

From: Representative Jeannette James

Date: January 25, 2000

Subject: Request for change to HB 192

This is to respectfully request two changes be made to the wording of CSHB 192 in Senate State Affairs. Both changes, I feel, will make this legislation stronger and more effective. The changes I would like to see are as follows:

1. On line 07, replace "regular" with "daily." This would require daily recitation of the pledge in Alaska's public schools.
2. Remove Section 2. The words "or maintain a respectful silence" on line 09 render Section 2 unnecessary.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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House of Representatives
House District 34

To: Senator Jerry Ward,
Chair, Senate State Affairs Committee

From: Representative Jeannette James

Date: January 25, 2000

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be "JJ", positioned to the right of the date.

Subject: Request for Hearing: HB 192

Please schedule the following bill for a hearing in the Senate State Affairs Committee at your earliest convenience:

HB 192, calling for the Pledge of Allegiance to be recited regularly in public schools.

A copy of the resolution, a sponsor statement and background information is on file with your office.

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House of Representatives
House District 34

To: Senator Jerry Ward, Chair
Senate State Affairs Committee

From: Representative Jeannette James

JJ

Date: May 13, 1999

Subject: Request for Hearing: HB 192

Please schedule the following bill for hearing in the Senate State Affairs Committee at your earliest convenience:

HB 192: An Act relating to reciting the pledge of allegiance by public school students.

A copy of the resolution and a sponsor statement is attached.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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House of Representatives
House District 34

HB 192 - CALLING FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS TO RECITE THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The aim of this bill is to standardize pledge of allegiance policies among the state's public schools and school systems, and to insure that this basic civic function is held on a regular basis at all grade levels of Alaska's public schools.

The goal of this bill is to require public schools to conduct regular flag exercises - which include the Pledge of Allegiance.

Under HB 192, no one will be compelled to recite the pledge against their conscience or belief system. Instead, students who object to reciting the pledge of allegiance on grounds of conscience or belief are asked to maintain a respectful silence.

HB 192 brings Alaska's flag statute in line with that of many other states, and is based on the flag statute of the State of Washington.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1999 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SCS CSHB 192(STA)

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction)	Dept. Affected	<u>Education & Early Development</u>
Title	BRU	
<u>pledge of allegiance by public school students</u>	Component	
Sponsor	<u>Representative James</u>	
Requester	<u>Senate State Affairs</u>	Component Serial No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

FUND SOURCE	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY99) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: *(Attach a separate page if necessary)*

House Bill 192 addresses the display of flags and the pledge of allegiance and requires appropriate flag exercises to be conducted in schools.

There is no fiscal impact for the department.

Prepared by <u>Barbara Thompson</u>	Phone <u>465-8727</u>
Division <u>Teaching and Learning Support</u>	Date/Time <u>2/25/00 2:34 PM</u>
Approved by Commissioner: <u>Richard S. Cross</u>	Date <u>2/25/00</u>
Agency <u>Department of Education</u>	

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Message

Date: Tuesday Feb 22, 2000

Time: 3:50 PM

To: JUNEAU

From: NANCY KELLY

TC Number: 10435

Message: Shirley here would like to speak again on the bridge issue - fairbanks

Close Window

Print



Teleconference Participants

TCN: 10435

Participant Lists

View List for

Participants

Unidentified Testifiers: Unidentified Observers:

CORDOVA (COR)

1 Name: Ms. Denny K Weathers Phone:
 Address: 3rd Jud. Dist. c/o Box 1791 Affiliation:
 City /St /Zip: Cordova AK Type: Testifier
 Bill: HB 192: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

H.B.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2000 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

B No. 2
Bill Version: SCS CSHB 192 (STA)
(S) Publish Date: 2-25-00

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) _____ Dept. Affected _____
Title An Act relating to reciting the BRU _____
pledge of allegiance by public school student Component _____
Sponsor Representative James _____
Requester _____ Component No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
----------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2000) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Senate State Affairs Committee Phone 465-4940
Division Senator Jerry Ward Date/Time 2/5/00
Approved by Commissioner _____ Date _____
Agency _____

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POM for Senator Ward



From: Mr. Edward L Knoebel
PO Box 84

Telephone: 822-3208

Glennallen, AK 99588

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: Y

Email:

Bill: HB 192 Title: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Message:

It is about time! Please support HB192.

Entered in GLN on 2/15/00 POMID: 1681

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Message 5 out of 18.



The Pledge of Allegiance

Thirty-one words which affirm the values and freedom that the American flag represents are recited while facing the flag as a pledge of Americans' loyalty to their country. The Pledge of Allegiance was written for the 400th anniversary, in 1892, of the discovery of America. A national committee of educators and civic leaders planned a public-school celebration of Columbus Day to center around the flag. Included with the script for ceremonies that would culminate in raising of the flag was the pledge. So it was in October 1892 Columbus Day programs that school children across the country first recited the Pledge of Allegiance this way:

**I pledge allegiance to my Flag and
to the Republic for which it stands:
one Nation indivisible, with Liberty
and Justice for all.**

Controversy continues over whether the author was the chairman of the committee, Francis Bellamy - who worked on a magazine for young people that published the pledge - or James Upham, who worked for the publishing firm that produced the magazine. The pledge was published anonymously in the magazine and was not copyrighted.

According to some accounts of Bellamy as author, he decided to write a pledge of allegiance, rather than a salute, because it was a stronger expression of loyalty - something particularly significant even 27 years after the Civil War ended. "One Nation indivisible" referred to the outcome of the Civil War, and "Liberty and Justice for all" expressed the ideals of the Declaration of Independence.

The words "my flag" were replaced by "the flag of the United States" in 1923 because some foreign-born people might have in mind the flag of the country of their birth, instead of the U.S. flag. A year later, "of America" was added after "United States." No form of the pledge received official recognition by Congress until June 22, 1942, when it was formally included in the U.S. Flag Code. The official name of The Pledge of Allegiance was adopted in 1945. The last change in language came on Flag Day 1954, when Congress passed a law which added the words "under God" after "one nation."

Originally, the pledge was said with the right hand in the so-called "Bellamy Salute," with the hand resting first outward from the chest, then the arm extending out from the body. Once Hitler came to power in Europe, some Americans were concerned that this position of the arm and hand resembled the salute rendered by the Nazi military. In 1942 Congress established the current practice of rendering the pledge with the right hand placed flat over the heart.

Section 7 of the Federal Flag Code states that when not in military uniform, men should remove any headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, thereby resting the hand over the heart. People in military uniform should remain silent, face the flag and render the military salute.

The Flag Code specifies that any future changes to the pledge would have to be with the consent of the President.

The Pledge of Allegiance now reads:

**I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America;
and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation
under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.**

2-29-00

New requirement: Pledge of Allegiance to

Students can opt for respectful silence

By CATHY BROWN
THE JUNEAU EMPIRE

Juneau students may be adding a new routine to their day - reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The state Senate and House of Representatives have both unanimously passed a bill requiring the

Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag be recited in Alaska schools. Students who choose not to say the pledge could maintain a "respectful silence" while others are doing so.

The House still must concur with changes made in the Senate, and the bill then goes to the governor for his signature or veto. Gov. Tony Knowles' spokesman Bob

King said the governor never commits to a particular action on a bill until it has come to his desk and he has had time to review it. However, King said based on news releases he's read about the bill, "I couldn't imagine any problem with it."

Rep. Jeannette James, a North Pole Republican, is the primary sponsor of the legislation.

"Children need to have patriotism in the nation in which they live," James said. "Patriotism is important."

She expects the House to concur with changes made in the Senate. Those changes included requiring the pledge to be recited "daily" instead of "regularly."

However, the executive director of the Alaska Civil Liberties

be recited in schools

Union, Jennifer Rudinger, said that organization does have problems with a change made in the Senate.

Although the Senate version allows people to remain silent during the pledge, it deletes a section in the House version that spelled out that districts cannot sanction a student or staff member who chooses not to say the pledge.

She said, in fact, a staff member in an Anchorage school had just that problem a year or two ago when she remained silent during the pledge.

"This person was sanctioned for that. She was ostracized by the faculty at the school. She was forced to stand in the hallway and not allowed in the room during the

Please see Pledge, Page 8.

Pledge...

Continued from Page 1

pledge as though she were a bad influence."

The superintendent was not aware that was happening, and when the civil liberties union organization contacted him, the problem ceased, she said.

The deleted section is necessary for that reason, she said. It "sends a message to the schools that people do have rights and that people cannot be harassed or given bad grades or evaluated poorly or in any other way sanctioned for

choosing to exercise their right to remain silent."

Juneau School District Assistant Superintendent Drew Alexander said the district has no policy requiring the pledge to be recited and he doesn't believe most schools do.

"We certainly will. If the state law says we're going to do it, we're certainly going to do it," he said.

It shouldn't be a problem, he said. It would become part of the normal order of business that's taken care of at the start of the school day.