

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT  
with Conference Committee Amendments  
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1275**

Introduced by

Representatives K. Koppelman, Damschen, Kasper, Monson, D. Ruby, Vigesaa

Senator Erbele

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-19-03.1 of the North Dakota Century  
2 Code, relating to the recitation of prayer at activities for public and nonpublic schools.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-19-03.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **15.1-19-03.1. Recitation of prayer - Period of silence - Pledge of allegiance.**

7 1. A student may voluntarily pray aloud or participate in religious speech at any time  
8 before, during, or after the schoolday to the same extent a student may voluntarily  
9 speak or participate in secular speech.

10 2. A student of a public or nonpublic school may not be prohibited from voluntarily  
11 participating in any student-initiated prayer at an activity held on the premises of a  
12 public or nonpublic school.

13 3. A school board, school administrator, or teacher may not impose any restriction on the  
14 time, place, manner, or location of any student-initiated religious speech or prayer  
15 which exceeds the restriction imposed on students' secular speech.

16 ~~3.4.~~ A school board may, by resolution, allow a classroom teacher to impose up to one  
17 minute of silence for meditation, reflection, or prayer at the beginning of each  
18 schoolday.

19 ~~4.5.~~ A school board may authorize the voluntary recitation of the pledge of allegiance by a  
20 teacher or one or more students at the beginning of each schoolday. A student may  
21 not be required to recite the pledge of allegiance, stand during the recitation of the  
22 pledge of allegiance, or salute the American flag.