



Senate Education Committee

Senator Mike Folmer
Chairman

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BILL SUMMARY

Senate Bill 847, Printer's No. 900
Prime Sponsor: Senator Greenleaf

SYNOPSIS:

Senate Bill 847 amends the Public School Code to provide for guidelines on religious expression.

BILL ANALYSIS:

Senate Bill 847 amends the Public School Code to provide for guidelines on religious expression. Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, the Secretary of Education shall post on the Pennsylvania Department of Education's website the U.S Department of Education's entire "Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools" and any additional information relevant to religious activity in public schools, including applicable federal and state laws.

In addition, the Secretary shall require school districts to post the guidelines on their local websites and to annually inform public school employees, parents and guardians of the information.

Effective Date: Immediately.

AMENDMENT A03807 TO SB 847:

Amendment A03807 removes the requirements for school districts to post the guidelines on their website and to annually inform public school employees, parents and guardians of the information.

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