

**As Introduced**

**135th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2023-2024**

**H. B. No. 657**

**Representatives Pavliga, Richardson**

**Cosponsor: Representative Carruthers**



**A BILL**

To amend section 3313.602 of the Revised Code to 1  
enact the Transparency in Pledge of Allegiance 2  
"T.I.P.A." Act to require each school district 3  
to post its Pledge of Allegiance policy. 4

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 3313.602 of the Revised Code be 5  
amended to read as follows: 6

**Sec. 3313.602.** (A) The board of education of each city, 7  
local, exempted village, and joint vocational school district 8  
shall adopt a policy specifying whether or not oral recitation 9  
of the pledge of allegiance to the flag shall be a part of the 10  
school's program and, if so, establishing a time and manner for 11  
the recitation. However, no board of education shall prohibit a 12  
classroom teacher from providing in the teacher's classroom 13  
reasonable periods of time for the oral recitation of the pledge 14  
of allegiance to the flag. The policy adopted under this 15  
division, and a teacher who includes recitation of the pledge in 16  
the classroom, shall not require any student to participate in 17  
the recitation and shall prohibit the intimidation of any 18

student by other students or staff aimed at coercing 19  
participation. 20

Each district board shall make its policy adopted under 21  
this division publicly available. Each district board shall post 22  
its policy on its publicly accessible web site, if it has one. 23

No board of education or employee of a city, local, 24  
exempted village, or joint vocational school district shall 25  
alter the words used in the oral recitation of the pledge of 26  
allegiance to the flag from the words set forth in 4 U.S.C. 4. 27

(B) In the development of its graded course of study, the 28  
board of education of each city and exempted village school 29  
district and the governing board of each educational service 30  
center shall ensure that the principles of democracy and ethics 31  
are emphasized and discussed wherever appropriate in all parts 32  
of the curriculum for grades kindergarten through twelve. 33

(C) Each city, local, exempted village, and joint 34  
vocational school board shall adopt policies that encourage all 35  
certificated and noncertificated employees to be cognizant of 36  
their roles in instilling ethical principles and democratic 37  
ideals in all district pupils. 38

(D) The board of education of each city, local, joint 39  
vocational, chartered community, and exempted village school 40  
district, and the Cleveland scholarship and tutoring program, 41  
shall require each district school to devote time on or about 42  
Veterans' day to an observance that conveys the meaning and 43  
significance of that day. The amount of time each school devotes 44  
to this observance shall be at least one hour or, in schools 45  
that schedule class periods of less than one hour, at least one 46  
standard class period. The board shall determine the specific 47

activities to constitute the observance in each school in the	48
district after consultation with the school's administrators.	49
<b>Section 2.</b> That existing section 3313.602 of the Revised	50
Code is hereby repealed.	51
<b>Section 3.</b> This act shall be known as the Transparency in	52
Pledge of Allegiance or "T.I.P.A." Act.	53