



January 24, 2014

SENATE BILL No. 326

DIGEST OF SB 326 (Updated January 22, 2014 4:05 pm - DI 84)

Citations Affected: IC 20-30.

Synopsis: Celebration of winter holidays in schools. Provides that a school corporation may: (1) instruct students about the history of traditional winter celebrations; (2) allow the use of traditional greetings concerning the celebrations; and (3) display on school property scenes or symbols associated with traditional winter celebrations if certain conditions are met and the scenes or symbols do not include a message that encourages a particular religious belief. Requires the department of education to develop guidelines to assist school corporations in developing appropriate instruction and displays.

Effective: July 1, 2014.

Smith J, Kruse, Young R Michael

January 14, 2014, read first time and referred to Committee on Education and Career Development.
January 23, 2014, reported favorably — Do Pass.

SB 326—LS 6294/DI 71



January 24, 2014

Second Regular Session 118th General Assembly (2014)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2013 Regular Session and 2013 First Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 326

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-30-6-18 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2014]: **Sec. 18. (a) Each school corporation may:**
4 **(1) instruct students about the history of traditional winter**
5 **celebrations; and**
6 **(2) allow students and employees to offer traditional greetings**
7 **regarding the celebrations, including:**
8 **(A) "Merry Christmas";**
9 **(B) "Happy Hanukkah";**
10 **(C) "Happy Holidays"; and**
11 **(D) other seasonal greetings.**
12 **(b) Except as provided in subsection (c), a school corporation**
13 **may display on property owned by the school corporation scenes**
14 **or symbols associated with traditional winter celebrations,**
15 **including a Menorah, Christmas tree, Nativity scene, or other**
16 **religious symbol associated with traditional winter celebrations, if**

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- 1 **the display includes a scene or symbol of:**
- 2 **(1) more than one (1) religion; or**
- 3 **(2) one (1) religion and at least one (1) secular scene or**
- 4 **symbol.**
- 5 **(c) A display described in subsection (b) may not include a**
- 6 **message that encourages adherence to a particular religious belief.**
- 7 **(d) The department shall develop guidelines to assist school**
- 8 **corporations in developing appropriate instruction and displays**
- 9 **concerning traditional winter celebrations.**



COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Education and Career Development, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 326, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill DO PASS.

(Reference is to SB 326 as introduced.)

Committee Vote: Yeas 7, Nays 1

Senator Kruse, Chairperson

