
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOLS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to build a
2 foundation of respect and love for the heritage of the State and
3 the United States of America by facilitating the recitation of
4 the Pledge of Allegiance and Hawaii Ponoï in public elementary
5 schools.

6 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by adding a new section to part I, subpart A, to be
8 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

9 "§302A- Pledge of allegiance; Hawaii ponoï. (a) Each
10 public school with students in grade kindergarten, grade six, or
11 any intervening grade shall authorize the school's faculty and
12 staff to provide, on a daily basis, time and space for students
13 to recite the pledge of allegiance and Hawaii ponoï; provided
14 that:

15 (1) No public school student shall be compelled, against
16 the student's objections or the objections of the
17 student's parent or guardian, to recite the pledge of



1 allegiance or Hawaii ponoi or stand during the
2 recitation of the pledge of allegiance or Hawaii ponoi
3 in any classroom or activity of the public school;

4 (2) No public school teacher or staff member shall
5 admonish, discipline, or harass a student based on the
6 student's participation or non-participation in a
7 recitation of the pledge of allegiance or Hawaii ponoi
8 in any classroom or activity of the public school; and

9 (3) No public school teacher or staff member shall be
10 admonished, disciplined, or harassed for either
11 deciding or declining to lead students in a recitation
12 of the pledge of allegiance or Hawaii ponoi in any
13 classroom or activity of the public school.

14 (b) In addition to the pledge of allegiance and Hawaii
15 ponoi, schools may encourage the recitation of other songs or
16 poems that relate to national or state history, culture, and
17 traditions and evoke pride in the nation and state.

18 (c) A copy of this section shall be posted in a
19 conspicuous location at each public school that is subject to
20 this section.



1 (d) The department shall adopt rules under chapter 91 to
2 carry out the purposes of this section."

3 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

5
INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 26 2026



H.B. NO. 2178

Report Title:

Education; Public Schools; Elementary Students; Recitation

Description:

Requires public schools with elementary students to allow faculty and staff to provide time and space each day for students to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and Hawaii Pono.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

