



House of Representatives *State of Utah*

UTAH STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX • 350 STATE CAPITOL
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February 27, 2026

Mr. Speaker:

The Education Committee reports a favorable recommendation on **S.B. 268**, RELIGIOUS CURRICULUM IN SCHOOLS, by Senator T. Weiler, with the following amendments:

Amendment 5

1 Line 108 through 121:

108 Section **53G-10-202** . is amended to read:

109 **53G-10-202** Maintaining constitutional freedom in the public schools.

110 { ~~(1) (a) An LEA may not provide religious instruction.~~ }

111 { ~~(b) In accordance with Subsection (1)(a), an LEA may teach about religion and~~
~~promote~~ }

112 { ~~religious liberty and respect for the religious views, or lack thereof, of all, including:~~ }

113 { ~~(i) philosophical questions concerning religion;~~ }

114 { ~~(ii) the history of religion;~~ }

115 { ~~(iii) comparative religion;~~ }

116 { ~~(iv) religious texts as literature; and~~ }

117 { ~~(v) the fundamental role of religion in the history of the United States and~~ }

117a { ~~other countries~~ ; }

118 [(+)] { ~~(2)~~ } (1) Except as provided in this section and in Section 53G-10-206, any instructional

119 activity, performance, or display which includes examination of or presentations about

120 religion, political or religious thought or expression, or the influence thereof on music,

121 art, literature, law, politics, history, or any other element of the curriculum, including the

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2 *Line 123 through 140:*

123 objectives included within the context of a course or activity and conducted in

124 accordance with applicable rules or policies of the state and LEA governing boards, may

125 be undertaken in the public schools.

126 [(2)] {(3)} (2) No aspect of cultural heritage, political theory, moral theory, or societal
value shall

127 be included within or excluded from public school curricula for the primary reason that

128 it affirms, ignores, or denies religious belief, religious doctrine, a religious sect, or the

129 existence of a spiritual realm or supreme being.

130 [(3)] {(4)} (3) [~~Public schools~~] A public school may not sponsor or deny the practice of
prayer or

131 religious devotionals.

132 [(4)] {(5)} (4) [~~School officials and employees may not, regardless of a school, LEA, or
state~~

133 ~~board rule or policy,~~] Notwithstanding any policy or state board rule, a school official or

134 employee may not use the official's or employee's position to endorse, promote, or

135 disparage a particular religious, denominational, sectarian, agnostic, or atheistic belief or

136 viewpoint.

137 {(6)} (5) An LEA shall ensure that:

138 (a) a student may express the student's beliefs about religion in homework, artwork, and

139 other written or oral assignments free from discrimination based on the religious

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140 perspective of the student's submissions;

Respectfully,

R. Neil Walter
Chair

Voting: 10-0-5

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