

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 591

To provide for a period of quiet reflection at the opening of certain schools  
on every school day.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 11, 2003

Mr. MILLER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred  
to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To provide for a period of quiet reflection at the opening  
of certain schools on every school day.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Moment of Quiet Re-  
5       flection in Schools Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       The Congress finds the following:

8               (1) In today’s hectic society, all too few of the  
9       Nation’s citizens are able to experience even a mo-

1       ment of quiet reflection before plunging headlong  
2       into the day's activities.

3               (2) The Nation's young citizens are particularly  
4       affected by this absence of an opportunity for a mo-  
5       ment of quiet reflection.

6               (3) The Nation's youth, and society as a whole,  
7       would be well served if students were afforded a mo-  
8       ment of quiet reflection at the beginning of each day  
9       in the public schools.

10 **SEC. 3. MOMENT OF QUIET REFLECTION.**

11       The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
12 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended by inserting  
13 after section 9536 the following:

14 **"SEC. 9537. MOMENT OF QUIET REFLECTION.**

15       “(a) IN GENERAL.—Each local educational agency  
16 receiving funds under this Act shall ensure that, at the  
17 opening of school on every school day, the teacher in  
18 charge of each classroom in each school served by the  
19 agency conducts a brief period of quiet reflection for not  
20 more than 60 seconds with the participation of all the stu-  
21 dents assembled in the classroom.

22       “(b) CONDUCT.—A period of quiet reflection under  
23 this section shall not be conducted as a religious service  
24 or exercise, but shall be considered as an opportunity for

1 a moment of silent reflection on the anticipated activities  
2 of the day.

3 “(c) CONSTRUCTION.—This section shall not be con-  
4 strued as prohibiting or restricting constitutionally pro-  
5 tected prayer.

6 “(d) CERTIFICATION.—As a condition of receiving  
7 funds under this Act, a local educational agency shall cer-  
8 tify in writing to the State involved that the agency is in  
9 compliance with this section.”.

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