

HOUSE BILL 142

IN THE HOUSE

January 13, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Education and Cultural Resources.
January 26, 1979	Committee recommend bill, do not pass.  Report adopted. Objection
January 27, 1979	Printed and placed on members' desks.
January 29, 1979	Motion pass consideration until 24th Legislative day.
January 30, 1979	Second reading, as amended.
January 31, 1979	Correctly engrossed.
February 1, 1979	Third reading, not passed.

1 House E BILL NO. 142  
 2 INTRODUCED BY Jensen Ellison, Parker, Nordtveitt  
 3 Vingel, Naylor, Dawson, Dutilleul, Seibert, Zurlin,  
 4 Saul, O'Rourke, Courson, Harnung, Stob, Harwitz  
 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE NUMBER OF

5 HOURS OF RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION RELEASED TIME A SCHOOL  
 6 DISTRICT MAY ALLOW; AMENDING SECTION 20-1-308, MCA."

7  
 8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

9 Section 1. Section 20-1-308, MCA, is amended to read:

10 "20-1-308. Religious instruction released time  
 11 program. (1) The trustees of an elementary or high school  
 12 district may provide for a religious instruction released  
 13 time program under which a pupil may be released from  
 14 regular school attendance ~~for a period not to exceed 2 hours~~  
 15 ~~per week~~ for the purpose of receiving religious instruction  
 16 upon written request, renewed at least annually, of the  
 17 pupil's parent or guardian. Religious instruction released  
 18 time may not exceed 2 hours in any week for pupils of an  
 19 elementary district and 5 hours in any week for pupils of a  
 20 high school district.

21 (2) No religious instruction released time program may  
 22 be established or administered in such a way that public  
 23 school property is utilized for the purpose of religious  
 24 instruction.

25 (3) No public moneys may be used, directly or

1 indirectly, for such religious instruction.  
 2 (4) Any period for which a pupil is released under a  
 3 religious instruction released time program is part of the  
 4 school day and week for purposes of 20-1-301, 20-1-302,  
 5 20-5-103, 20-9-311, and all other provisions of Title 20,  
 6 and such release may not adversely affect the pupil's  
 7 attendance record."

-End-

-2- INTRODUCED BILL  
 HB 142

Education &  
Cultural Resources

Objection Raised to  
Adverse Committee Report

1 House E BILL NO. 142  
 2 INTRODUCED BY Jensen, Ellison, Walker, Nordstrom,  
 3 Vingel, Naylor, Dawsinger, Sautelien, Seifert, Zurlin,  
 4 Saul, O'Connell, Conroy, Hammett, Sten, Hussite  
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 6 HOURS OF RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION RELEASED TIME A SCHOOL  
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-End-

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2 INTRODUCED BY JENSEN, ELLISON, SPILKER, NORDTVEOT, VINGER,  
3 NATHE, DASSINGER, BERTELSEN, SEIFERT, QUILICI, HAND,  
4 O'CONNELL, CONROY, HARRINGTON, STOBIE, HURWITZ  
5

6 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE NUMBER OF  
7 HOURS OF RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION RELEASED TIME A SCHOOL  
8 DISTRICT MAY ALLOW; PROVIDING THAT RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION  
9 MUST MEET CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS; AMENDING SECTION 20-1-308,  
10 MCA."

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12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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7 religious instruction released time program is part of the  
8 school day and week for purposes of 20-1-301, 20-1-302,  
9 20-5-103, 20-9-311, and all other provisions of Title 20,  
10 and such release may not adversely affect the pupil's  
11 attendance record.

12 (5) ANY PERSON OR ORGANIZATION PROVIDING RELIGIOUS  
13 INSTRUCTION UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL:

14 (A) PROVIDE CLASSROOM FACILITIES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY  
15 WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF THE SCHOOL; AND

16 (B) KEEP ACCURATE ATTENDANCE RECORDS AND MAKE REPORTS  
17 TO SCHOOL OFFICIALS AS REQUESTED."

-End-