

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1342, As Amended

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL INSTRUCTION; REPEALING SECTION 33-1604, IDAHO  
2 CODE, RELATING TO BIBLE READING IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AND AMENDING  
3 CHAPTER 16, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION  
4 33-1604, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE WHEN RELIGIOUS TEXTS, INCLUDING THE  
5 BIBLE, ARE PERMITTED TO BE USED IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, WITH EXCEPTIONS.  
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7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 SECTION 1. That Section [33-1604](#), Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby  
9 repealed.

10 SECTION 2. That Chapter 16, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is  
11 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-  
12 ignated as Section 33-1604, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

13 33-1604. USE OF THE BIBLE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS. The use of religious  
14 texts, including the Bible, is expressly permitted to be used in Idaho public  
15 schools for reference purposes to further the study of literature, com-  
16 parative religion, English and foreign languages, United States and world  
17 history, comparative government, law, philosophy, ethics, world geography,  
18 archaeology, music, sociology, and other topics of study where an under-  
19 standing of religious texts, including the Bible, may be useful or relevant.  
20 No student will be required to use any religious texts for reference purposes  
21 if the student or parents of the student object. This section shall not be  
22 construed to permit religious or doctrinal instruction.