

Reported Recommending
Ind. Postponed
Passed House
Failed to Pass House
Passed Senate
Failed to Pass Senate

House File 444

February 27, 1947.
Schools and Textbooks.

By MILLS (Benson).

A BILL FOR

An Act providing that boards of education of school districts shall have authority to provide for moral instruction of pupils.

WHEREAS, one of the first requisites of a harmonious, contented and prosperous state depends upon religious tolerance and understanding; and

WHEREAS, the civil and religious liberties which are inherently part of the American constitutional system have been best secured and furthered by providing moral instruction for pupils in connection with the public schools of this state.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 Section 1. The board of education of each school district
2 is hereby authorized and empowered to provide for the moral
3 instruction of pupils subject to the jurisdiction of such
4 board in the manner in this act provided.

1 Sec. 2. The board of education of each school district
2 may authorize and complete a survey of the religious affiliations
3 of all pupils attending the public schools within any such
4 district, and may ascertain those pupils who desire, and have
5 the consent of parent or guardian for moral instruction. On a
6 day in each week, to be fixed by the board, it may excuse such
7 pupils for at least one hour, for the purpose of attending
8 their respective places of worship, or some other suitable

9 place there to receive moral instruction in accordance with
10 the religious faith of said pupils.

1 Sec. 3. Each board of education is authorized to adopt
2 rules and regulations for carrying into effect the provisions
3 of this act and to make such arrangements with the respective
4 persons in charge of the several denominations for the giving
5 of aforesaid moral instruction.

1 Sec. 4. Pupils attending their several places of worship
2 for moral instruction therein at the time specified and for
3 the period fixed shall be credited with the time so spent as if
4 such pupils had been in actual attendance at school.

EXPLANATION OF H. F. 444

This measure is to give school boards authority to establish classes for religious education and give credit for time spent by the pupil.