

FEB 7 2002

EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 2253

BY CONNORS

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
 Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
 Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act encouraging school districts and accredited nonpublic
 2 schools to adopt a religious and cultural tolerance curriculum
 3 for students in kindergarten through grade twelve.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24

HF 2253

1 Section 1. Section 280.6, Code 2001, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 280.6 RELIGIOUS BOOKS -- INTENT -- TOLERANCE CURRICULUM.

4 1. Religious books such as the Bible, the Torah, and the
5 Koran shall not be excluded from any public school or
6 institution in the state, nor shall any child be required to
7 read such religious books contrary to the wishes of the
8 child's parent or guardian.

9 2. It is the intent of the general assembly to encourage
10 the boards of directors of school districts and the
11 authorities in charge of nonpublic schools to adopt a
12 curriculum that teaches students in kindergarten through grade
13 twelve about the religions and cultures of the world in a
14 manner that does not inculcate or otherwise impose beliefs but
15 instead enables students to learn about and develop a respect
16 for different religions and cultures, thereby creating an
17 understanding of the rights and freedoms people share and
18 engendering the will to protect those rights and freedoms.

19 EXPLANATION

20 This bill states the intent of the general assembly to
21 encourage school districts and accredited nonpublic schools to
22 adopt a curriculum that teaches students in kindergarten
23 through grade 12 about the religions and cultures of the world
24 so that students can develop a respect for different religions
25 and cultures and an understanding of, and engendering the will
26 to protect, the rights and freedoms people share.

27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35