

# ***Kentucky Student Religious Liberty Anti-Discrimination Law***

**To be upheld by your local board of education, principal, and superintendent**

*Grants **clear** legal permission for  
orderly voluntary religious and political expression **by students**  
in public schools and public postsecondary institutions  
**to the same extent as non-religious, non-political expression***

## **What sorts of religious and political expression?**

- A. Pray and perform other religious activities during non-class time, vocally or silently, alone or with other students**
- B. Express personal viewpoints on public school campuses, including outdoors**
  - **Under** reasonable limitations justified **without** appeal to message content
  - Under those limitations **if** “tailored to serve a compelling governmental interest” **and if** an alternative venue for communicating the message is also provided
- C. Express personal viewpoints in class assignments with religious and political topics**
  - In classroom, homework, art, oral, and written work
  - **Without** penalty of any kind
  - If the students do **not** choose the curriculum (or criteria) of what the class assignments are supposed to be
- D. Engage in discussion on religion or politics with other students in a mutually voluntary manner**

- E. Distribute political and religious literature** under same restrictions of time, place, and manner as with the distribution of other student-distributed literature
- F. Wear clothing with religious messages**
- G. Use highschool facilities before or after school as a student religious organization for prayer, reading of religious texts, or worship exercises**
- H. Use school media to announce meetings of student religious groups**
- Including use of PA system, school newspapers, and bulletin boards
- I. Meet within school campus before or after school as a student religious group**
- J. Be absent from school to observe religious holidays if allowed by the school according to its attendance policy**
- K. Speak at official school events, including with pre-prepared political and or religious remarks**
- In a non-obscene, non-lewd manner
  - Regardless of personal religious or political beliefs
  - If need be, accompanied by a clear message from the school that it does **not** institutionally sponsor or endorse the student's remarks
- L. Operate student-led religious or political groups without being discriminated against by the public school system**
- Concerning selection of student-group leaders
  - Concerning selection of student-group doctrines or mission

The law also grants “equal access to public forums” to religious and political organizations to the same extent that the public schools would allow for non-religious, non-political organizations. It also provides for the **non-religious instruction** concerning religions **by teachers**, in class discussion of the **history of** religions, the **role** of religions **in U.S. history**, comparative religion, and religious literature **as literature**.

**Effective March 2017**