

1 POLICIES AND PURPOSES

2 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.230
3 RCW to read as follows:

4 RCW 28A.230.170 states: "The study of the Constitution of the
5 United States and the Constitution of the state of Washington shall be
6 a condition prerequisite to graduation from public and private high
7 schools of this state." However, the courts have ruled "any study
8 constitutes study." Therefore, the superintendent of public
9 instruction has left it up to the teacher. Teachers have not provided
10 any noticeable instruction on the Washington state Constitution.

11 This measure requires public and private school libraries to stock
12 printed copies of the Declaration of Independence, the United States
13 Constitution, the Washington state Constitution, the federalists
14 papers, and the anti-federalist papers. Each classroom shall display
15 the preamble and the first twelve sections of Article I of the
16 Washington state Constitution in school classrooms.

17 **RELATING THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE TO THE CONSTITUTIONS**
18 **OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**

19 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.230.170 and 1985 c 341 s 1 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

21 The study of the Constitution of the United States and the
22 Constitution of the state of Washington shall be a condition
23 prerequisite to graduation from the public and private high schools of
24 this state. The state board of education acting upon the advice of the
25 superintendent of public instruction shall provide by rule (~~or~~
26 ~~regulation~~) for the implementation of this section into the K-12
27 social studies curriculum. Local school boards are responsible for
28 providing books that explain the meaning and substance of the
29 Constitutions of the United States and the state of Washington. Local
30 school boards are responsible for displaying copies of the Declaration
31 of Independence, the Bill of Rights, the United States Constitution,
32 and the Washington state Constitution.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.230
34 RCW to read as follows:

35 The word "study" in RCW 28A.230.170 includes:

1 (1) Illustrating, by teacher instruction, how the Declaration of
2 Independence provided the outline for both the United States
3 Constitution and the Washington state Constitution;

4 (2) Relating each section of the Washington state Constitution to
5 statements made in the Declaration of Independence and the United
6 States Constitution;

7 (3) Teaching the heritage and meaning of this statement from the
8 Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident,
9 that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator
10 with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty,
11 and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments
12 are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent
13 of the governed." Suggested sources are: The Magna Carta (1215), the
14 1628 Petition of Right to King Charles I, the writings of Sir Edward
15 Coke (1552-1634), John Locke (1632-1704), The Spirit of Laws (1748) by
16 Charles De Montesquieu, and Sir William Blackstone (1723-1780);

17 (4) Teacher instruction on The Northwest Ordinance, which sets the
18 requirements for states to join the union shall be required. Article
19 3 states: "Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good
20 government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of
21 education shall forever be encouraged...";

22 (5) Teaching the heritage and meaning of the religious freedom
23 statement of Article I, section 10 of the Washington state
24 Constitution. Suggested student readings include: Thomas Jefferson's
25 "Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom (1786), and James Madison's
26 "Memorial and Remonstrance." The purpose of this instruction is to
27 illustrate the struggle for obtaining "absolute freedom of conscience
28 in all matters of religious sentiment, ..." as stated in Article I,
29 section 10 of the Washington state Constitution;

30 (6) Requiring that students be encouraged to memorize the preamble
31 of the United States Constitution along with the preamble and Article
32 I, section 1 of the Washington state Constitution;

33 (7) Students shall read and be taught George Washington's First
34 Inaugural Address and his Farewell Address;

35 (8) Testing, including state standardized testing, on the meanings
36 of the constitutions and on the meaning of such words as: Endowed,
37 unalienable, created equal, tranquility, posterity, ordain, blessings,
38 and licentiousness;

1 (9) Displaying the preamble and the first twelve sections of the
2 Washington state Constitution in each classroom with a note stating:
3 "For the complete text of the Washington state Constitution go to the
4 school library"; and

5 (10) Illustrating, with teacher instruction, the relationship
6 between the "Pledge of Allegiance to the United States" and the
7 Washington state Constitution (the preamble, Article I, section 1, and
8 Article I, section 10). This instruction shall be taught at the time
9 the "Pledge of Allegiance" is taught.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Part headings used in this act are not any
11 part of the law.

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