



# UTAH STATE SENATE

UTAH STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX • WEST OFFICE BUILDING, SUITE W115

P.O. BOX 145115 • SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84114-5115 • (801) 538-1035

February 3, 2006

Mr. President:

The Education Committee reports a favorable recommendation on **S.J.R. 9**, RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN RELIGIOUS EXPRESSIONS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, by Senator P. Hellewell, with the following amendments:

1. Page 2, Lines 42 through 45: {-

- 42 ~~—WHEREAS, courts have ruled that voluntary student participation in prayer in~~  
43 ~~public~~  
44 ~~schools is permitted if the policy permitting it ensures that there is no direct or~~  
45 ~~indirect~~  
46 ~~coercion and no identification with a particular religion, and that the prayer should~~  
47 ~~be~~  
48 ~~nonsectarian, nondenominational, and nonproselytizing in character; }~~ =

WHEREAS, courts have upheld the right of students to spontaneously pray in school settings, and school administrators and teachers are in no way permitted to discourage religious expression, including prayer, by a student;

WHEREAS, in the classroom, instruction covering religious subject matter is permitted, provided the teacher does not advocate religion in general or one or more religions in particular;

Respectfully,

Mark B. Madsen  
Acting Committee Chair

Voting: 4-0-3

3 SJR009.SCI.WPD csteffen/PVD JLW/ALH 2/3/06 3:11 pm

Bill Number



SJR009

Action Class



S

Action Code



SCRAMD