

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO
Sixty-third Legislature Second Regular Session - 2016

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1342

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL INSTRUCTION; REPEALING SECTION 33-1604, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO BIBLE READING IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AND AMENDING CHAPTER 16, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-1604, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE WHEN THE BIBLE IS PERMITTED TO BE USED IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, WITH EXCEPTIONS.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section [33-1604](#), Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. That Chapter 16, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and designated as Section 33-1604, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

33-1604. USE OF THE BIBLE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS. The Bible is expressly permitted to be used in Idaho public schools for reference purposes to further the study of literature, comparative religion, English and foreign languages, United States and world history, comparative government, law, philosophy, ethics, astronomy, biology, geology, world geography, archaeology, music, sociology, and other topics of study where an understanding of the Bible may be useful or relevant. No student will be required to use any religious texts for reference purposes if the student or parents of the student object. This section shall not be construed to permit religious or doctrinal instruction.