

LEGISLATIVE BILL 656

Approved by the Governor January 27, 1972

Introduced by Ramey C. Whitney, 44th District; William H. Hasebrook, 18th District; George Syas, 13th District

AN ACT for submission to the electors of an amendment to Article VII, section 11, of the Constitution of Nebraska, relating to education; to provide that public funds shall not be appropriated to any school not owned or exclusively controlled by the state or a political subdivision; to permit the state to receive money from the federal government and distribute it in accordance with the terms of the grant, but to prohibit adding any state or local funds to such money; to provide for the submission of the proposed amendment to the electors at the primary election in May, 1972; to provide for the manner of submission and form of ballot; and to provide the effective date thereof.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. That at the primary election in May, 1972, there shall be submitted to the electors of the State of Nebraska for approval the following amendment to Article VII, section 11, of the Constitution of Nebraska, which is hereby proposed by the Legislature:

~~"Sec. 11. No--sectarian--instruction--shall--be allowed in any school or institution supported in whole or in part by the public funds set apart for educational purposes; nor shall the state accept any grant, conveyance, or request of money, lands or other property to be used for sectarian purposes. Neither the state legislature nor any county, city or other public corporation, shall ever make any appropriation from any public fund, or grant any public land in aid of any sectarian or denominational school or college, or any educational institution which is not exclusively owned and controlled by the state or a governmental subdivision thereof. No religious test or qualification shall be required of teacher or student, for admission to or continuance in any public school or educational institution supported in whole or in part by public taxation. Appropriation of public funds shall not be made to any school or institution of learning not owned or exclusively controlled by the state or a political subdivision thereof.~~

All public schools shall be free of sectarian instruction.

The state shall not accept money or property to be used for sectarian purposes; Provided, that the Legislature may provide that the state may receive money from the federal government and distribute it in accordance with the terms of any such federal grants, but no public funds of the state, any political subdivision, or any public corporation may be added thereto.

A religious test or qualification shall not be required of any teacher or student for admission or continuance in any school or institution supported in whole or in part by public funds or taxation.

Sec. 2. The proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors in the manner prescribed by Article XVI, section 1, of the Constitution of Nebraska. The proposition for the submission of the proposed amendment shall be placed upon the ballot in the following form:

"Constitutional amendment to provide that public funds shall not be appropriated to any school not owned or exclusively controlled by the state or a political subdivision; to permit the state to receive money from the federal government and distribute it in accordance with the terms of the grant, but to prohibit adding any state or local funds to such money.

For
Against"

Sec. 3. That the proposed amendment, if adopted, shall be in force and take effect immediately upon the completion of the canvass of the votes, at which time it shall be the duty of the Governor to proclaim it as a part of the Constitution of Nebraska.