S-1898.1			

SENATE BILL 6008

State of Washington 54th Legislature 1995 Regular Session

By Senators Roach and Swecker

Read first time 02/22/95. Referred to Committee on Education.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to allowing students to incorporate religious and
- 2 philosophical beliefs in school-related activities; and adding a new
- 3 section to chapter 28A.600 RCW.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.600
- 6 RCW to read as follows:
- 7 The First Amendment to the United States Constitution, and Article
- 8 I, section 5 and section 11 of the Washington state Constitution
- 9 guarantee that students retain their rights of free speech and free
- 10 exercise of religion, notwithstanding the student's enrollment and
- 11 attendance in a common school. These rights include, but are not
- 12 limited to, the right of an individual student to freely express and
- 13 incorporate the student's personal beliefs and opinions where relevant
- 14 or appropriate in any and all class work, home work, evaluations or
- 15 tests, extracurricular activities, or other activities under the
- 16 sponsorship or auspices of the school district, without retribution,
- 17 negative consequence, or penalty to the standing, evaluation, or
- 18 privilege of the individual student. Nothing in this section is
- 19 intended to limit any scholastic debate or dialogue in the educational

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- 1 environment. The exercise of these rights shall not be subject to
- 2 censorship or otherwise impaired by any employee, officer, agent, or
- 3 contractor of the school district.

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