

ALLAN EGOLF, MEMBER

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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

VETERANS' AFFAIRS & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
MAJORITY VICE CHAIRMAN
AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS
AGING & YOUTH
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

VIETNAM VETERANS' HEALTH
INITIATIVE COMMISSION
FIREFIGHTERS & EMERGENCY SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS
HOUSE POLICY COMMITTEE

December 19, 2000

TO: All House Members

FROM: Rep. Allan Egolf *AE*

SUBJECT: Cosponsorship - Pledge of Allegiance
(Previously H.B. 1673)

In the near future, I will be reintroducing legislation that amends the Public School Code by requiring schools to offer the Pledge of Allegiance or the National Anthem at the beginning of each school day. Also, a United States flag shall be displayed in each classroom within a school building.

This request for legislation was made to me and is supported by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

If you would like to become a cosponsor of this legislation, please contact Teri Root by GroupWise or by e-mail at troot@pahousegop.com or call 3-1593.

AE/tcr

Previous Cosponsors: SEMMEL, LUCYK, ZUG, GEORGE, McNAUGHTON, MASLAND, ORIE, STERN, WRIGHT, ARMSTRONG, FLEAGLE, TRAVAGLIO, CLARK, FARGO, DEMPSEY, FICHTER, LAUGHLIN, SAILOR, MARSICO, WOGAN, FAIRCHILD, MAJOR, BARRAR, ROBERTS, DeWEESE, READSHAW, BELFANTI, BAKER, GIGLIOTTI, ROHRER, TIGUE, DeLUCA, WOJNAROSKI, HESS, McCALL, FORCIER, CLYMER, LEH, STABACK, SCHULER, WILT, SAYLOR, SHANER, DALEY, BARD, FEESE, B. SMITH, GRUCELA, SATHER, CAWLEY, S. MILLER, PETRONE, LYNCH, E. Z. TAYLOR, DALLY, BENNINGHOFF, SCHRODER, YOUNGBLOOD, BASTIAN, HUTCHINSON, HASAY, ADOLPH, GEIST, CHADWICK, HORSEY, PLATTS, TRUE, HARHAI, SOLOBAY AND BROWNE

Allan Egolf - A form has been filled out on your site.

From: Please Do Not Click Reply <support@govoffice.com>
To: "Aegolf@pahousegop.com" <Aegolf@pahousegop.com>
Date: 7/17/2003 12:18 PM
Subject: A form has been filled out on your site.

Your Site has received new information through an online form.
Online Form: Contact Me
Site URL: www.allanegolf.com

First Name: Rex
Last Name: Brien, Esquire
Street Address: [REDACTED]
City: Philadelphia
State: PA
Zip Code: 19118
P.O. Box (if any):
Email Address: [REDACTED]
Phone Number: (215) 587-1609

I'd Like to See Action Taken on: I just read a newspaper article concerning your sponsoring of a law requiring Pennsylvania schoolchildren to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Joseph Stalin would be proud, sir.

Do Not Click Reply - This e-mail has been generated from an online form.

*Talked to Rex on 7/29/03 - clarified law,
my reasoning for need for this legis. etc.
he was concerned abt proper teaching of
Am history but still thought this legis. was
unnecessary. (He apologized for the e-mail)*
Sept 6th Open House @ HHS

File

Carol Gantt - Pledge of Allegience

From: Rick O'Leary
To: Allan Egolf; Teri Root
Date: 7/23/2003 2:39 PM
Subject: Pledge of Allegience

After checking on the facts presented in a newspaper article on this issue...we located the laws in both Utah and Colorado...both states REQUIRE written permission from the parents...which would OK the child's desire to not participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.....these were both enacted in 2003. I would say that the federal courts have more to examine here, than just our simple parental "notification".

Rick O'Leary
Executive Director (R)
House VA&EP Committee
787-1534



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

*file C.O.
pledge ACT*

17 July 2003

JUL 18 2003

Honorable C. Allan Egolf
House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
18 West Main Street
New Bloomfield, PA 17068

Dear Representative ^{AR}~~Allen~~:

I share your disappointment in the ruling of the U.S. Eastern District Court which ruled against the Pledge of Allegiance in the school as unconstitutional.

What is this country going to do if we don't "wave the flag" a little for the youth of our nation.

Carson Long Military Institute has students from six major religions and ten foreign countries from China to Russia. And, just for the record we are going to continue saying the Pledge each morning and waving the flag frequently.

I applaud you for introducing the Pledge legislation last year. Best wishes for your continued success.

Best regards,

Carson E. R. Holman
Colonel, AUS Ret
President

CERH/tlh

Faxed to D.O.
7/25/03**Allan Egolf - Fwd: 9th Circuit Court of Appeals**

From: Mauree Gingrich
To: aegolf@pahousegop.com
Date: 7/24/2003 12:13 PM
Subject: Fwd: 9th Circuit Court of Appeals

Allen, would you recommend that I cosponsor or are you doing something else to address this issue? Thanks, Mauree

>>> Jerry Stern 07/24/03 11:50AM >>>

Mauree,

I am introducing a concurrent resolution appealing to Congress to use Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution to limit the appellate jurisdiction of the federal courts regarding the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools.

Recent actions of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals on this issue violate fundamental constitutional principles and jeopardize a time-honored practice supported by overwhelming majorities in every state. This is not a problem that can be solved at the same level, but this is a problem that states can help solve by encouraging action by Congress. Congressional action is necessary to restore the judiciary to its constitutionally-proscribed role by restraining it from making decisions that rightfully should be left to the legislatures. This action will also help remind Congress that the "Exceptions Clause" is a remedy at their disposal, a remedy that has been used dozens of times in the past but recently overlooked.

The recent decision by U.S. District Judge Robert F. Kelly help to reinforce the importance of this resolution. His 29 page opinion and order make permanent a preliminary injunction blocking enforcement of our law to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Enough is enough.

I would appreciate your co-sponsorship of my Concurrent Resolution to restore discipline to the courts. Please have your secretary contact my office if you are interested.

Sincerely,
Jerry

Allan Egolf - Status of Pledge of Allegiance Case

From: Edward Hussie
To: Allan Egolf
Date: 4/22/2003 3:53 PM
Subject: Status of Pledge of Allegiance Case

Federal District Court Judge Kelly has scheduled an argument on the cross motions for summary judgment in the Pledge of Allegiance lawsuit for June 9, 2003. Since this case does not involve questions of fact and will be decided as a matter of law, Judge Kelly's decision on the summary judgment motions will go to the merits of the constitutional issues. Thereafter, the losing party can file an appeal to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.



NEWS RELEASE

Senator Jeffrey E. Piccola
15th Senatorial District

HARRISBURG OFFICE: Senate Box 203015 • Harrisburg, PA 17120-3015 • (717) 787-6801
DISTRICT OFFICE: 27 South Market Street • Elizabethville, PA 17023 • (717) 362-9051

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 7, 2003

PICCOLA & EGOLF BLAST ACLU FOR FEDERAL LAWSUIT CHALLENGING PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE REQUIREMENT IN SCHOOLS

HARRISBURG -- Senate Majority Whip Jeffrey Piccola (R-15) and Representative Allan Egolf (R-86) expressed outrage today that the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania has filed a federal lawsuit opposing a new state law requiring schools to display the American flag in every classroom and to offer either the Pledge of Allegiance or the playing of the National Anthem before the start of every school day.

The lawmakers also are seeking clarification of reports that the Department of Education is delaying enforcement of the law, which was to take effect today, pending a federal court hearing on the matter.

The legislators pointed out that Act 157 of 2002, sponsored by Rep. Egolf in the House and championed in the Senate by Piccola, was overwhelmingly approved by the General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Mark Schweiker last December 9.

"Act 157 merely guarantees that Pennsylvania's school students will have the opportunity to recite the Pledge or hear the National Anthem every morning before their school day begins," said Egolf. "It doesn't force the students to do anything, and in fact gives students who have religious or personal objections to reciting the Pledge the ability to opt out with parental notification from the school."

-- MORE --

PICCOLA, 2

The ACLU filed the suit on behalf of the Circle School, a private school in Harrisburg, and on behalf of a student.

"I'm disappointed that a school in my district objects to something that requires such a minimal amount of citizenship on the part of its students," said Sen. Piccola. "At a time when the nation seems to be on the verge of war, I can't think of anything more reasonable than Pennsylvania's children having the right to say the Pledge of Allegiance. And for the ACLU to take up this alleged cause under the illusion that it hampers anyone's right to free speech is positively ludicrous."

The legislators noted that Act 157 had strong support from Pennsylvania's veterans' organizations.

"Some people seem to think that encouraging patriotism and respect for our nation is a bad thing, and that's a shame," said Piccola. "Given what's going on in the world, many folks are re-embracing America's traditions and finding strength and comfort in them. Is that such a terrible thing to instill in our kids? I don't think so."

"Pennsylvania's kids deserve to know the pride that comes with patriotism and with loving your country -- especially in the face of adversity," said Egolf.

The legislators said they will follow the case closely and will fight any attempt to overturn Act 157.

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CONTACT: David Transue, (717) 787-6801



DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Veterans of Foreign Wars

From: George W. Mullen, State Adjutant

To: The Honorable Allan Egolf, State Representative

Date: February 12, 2003

Subject: ACT 157 of 2002

I received an e-mail today in regard to your reply to the ACLU, challenging the Pledge of Allegiance requirement in schools and also, your letter to Dr. Vickie Phillips, Active Secretary, Department of Education. On behalf of our State Commander John Biedrzycki and our 136,000 members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Pennsylvania, we want to thank you and appreciate your willingness to take the lead in replying to the ACLU and the Department of Education on ACT 157.

Our organization is proud to know that we have legislators in the General Assembly, like you, who are able to stand up and speak for what is good for this great country. You are a true American.

Again, your efforts are appreciated indeed, and we hope we can overcome this barrier and have ACT 157, become reality. If there is anything our organization can do to assist in this concern, do not hesitate to contact me.

ALLAN EGOLF, MEMBER

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APPOINTMENTS

FIREFIGHTERS & EMERGENCY SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS
HOUSE POLICY COMMITTEE
PENNSYLVANIA VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

January 28, 2003

Mr. Kenneth F. Cahill
Building 3-97
Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA 17003-5002

Dear Ken:

I wanted to thank you for your hard work and support of House Bill 592, now Act 157 of 2002. This legislation passed because of your efforts and dedication to patriotism.

The legislative process is not a simple process, and it takes the work of many dedicated people to create a law. It has been a true blessing to be able to work with talented people like you, and I was moved by your spirit and determination to make a difference in the lives of Pennsylvania's children.

I was honored that you could be present when Governor Schweiker signed House Bill 592 into law. Enclosed, please find a picture from that memorable day. I hope you will look back on this experience with a feeling of great accomplishment because without your efforts, this legislation would not have passed into law.

Again, thank you for all of your help, and I look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allan Egolf".

Allan Egolf
State Representative
86th Legislative District

AE/tcr
Enclosure

Teri Root - For Rep. Egolf/HB 592 file

From: Rick O'Leary
To: Teri Root
Date: 9/23/2002 1:58 PM
Subject: For Rep. Egolf/HB 592 file

HR 643 (supports the Pledge to the Flag) just passed 200-0 today 9-23-02. We can use this for any potential floor debate on your HB 592. IE...how can a person who votes for a provision that states that the " Pledge of Allegiance is not unconstitutional" and that they "confirm their support for the pledge"....etc.. in HR 643.....how can they be against flags in schools and the "offering" of the Pledge (ie...Rep. Josephs)..as HB 592 provides?