

# Florida Governor Signs “Moment of Silence” Bill



Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has signed a bill that requires at least one minute of silence in public schools at the beginning of every day so that children can pray or meditate.

DeSantis signed HB 529, known as the “Moment of Silence in Public Schools” bill, into law in June. Under the law, public-school principals will be required to direct first-period teachers to institute moments of silence.

“It’s something that’s important to be able to provide each student the ability, every day, to be able to reflect and to be able to pray as they see fit,” DeSantis says. “The idea that you can just push God out of every institution, and be successful—I’m sorry, our founding fathers did not believe that.”

The governor added he was signing the measure to help protect religious freedom in the state.

Opponents say the measure promotes prayer in school. The new law will make Florida one of at least 15 states that require moments of silence at public schools.

The governor made the announcement at The Shul of Bal Harbour, a Jewish community center, where he also promised to protect the Jewish community and touted his support for Israel.

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