

ALLEGIANCE.

EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL:

(1) PROVIDE EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL CLASSROOM WITH AN AMERICAN FLAG;

(2) PREPARE A PROGRAM FOR EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL CLASSROOM FOR THE BEGINNING OF EACH SCHOOL DAY THAT PROVIDES FOR THE SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND OTHER PATRIOTIC EXERCISES THAT ARE APPROVED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT; AND

(3) REQUIRE ALL STUDENTS AND TEACHERS IN CHARGE TO STAND AND FACE THE FLAG AND WHILE STANDING GIVE AN APPROVED SALUTE AND RECITE IN UNISON THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AS FOLLOWS: "I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL".

(D) EXCEPTION FROM FLAG SALUTE OR PLEDGE REQUIREMENT.

ANY STUDENT OR TEACHER WHO WISHES TO BE EXCUSED FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (C) (3) OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE EXCUSED.

(E) OTHER PATRIOTIC EXERCISES.

EACH COUNTY BOARD MAY PROVIDE FOR ANY OTHER PATRIOTIC EXERCISES IT CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE UNDER THE REGULATIONS AND INSTRUCTION THAT BEST MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE DIFFERENT GRADES IN THE SCHOOLS.

(F) DISRESPECT IN VIOLATION OF SECTION.

ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO COMMITS AN ACT OF DISRESPECT, EITHER BY WORD OR ACTION, IS IN VIOLATION OF THE INTENT OF THIS SECTION.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section presently appears as Art. 77, §77.

In subsection (b) (1) of this section, language is added to require the display of an American flag "on the site of each public school building" rather than the present requirement of "upon every public school building". This is done to conform to actual practice.

In subsection (d) of this section, language is added to permit any student or teacher "who wishes" to be excused from the flag salute and pledge of allegiance requirements. This is done as the mandatory flag salute and pledge of allegiance requirements of this section have been held unconstitutional and void by the Maryland Court of Appeals in State v. Lundquist, 262 Md. 534 (1971). This section, as revised, meets the