

AMENDED RESOLUTION SB11

BOARD OF TRUSTEES, CHARLOTTE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Resolution Affirming Students' Constitutional and Legal Right to Pray in School

WHEREAS, the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution protects Charlotte ISD students' religious freedom;

WHEREAS, the Texas Religious Freedom Restoration Act prohibits Charlotte ISD from substantially burdening a student's free exercise of religion;

WHEREAS, the Texas Education Code affirms that public school students currently have an absolute right to pray or meditate in school in a manner that does not disrupt the instructional or other activities of the school;

WHEREAS, the Charlotte ISD Board of Trustees recognizes the value of prayer for those who wish to pray and supports students' and teachers' First Amendment right to pray in school as reflected above by the First Amendment, the Texas Religious Freedom Restoration Act, and the Texas Education Code;

WHEREAS, Charlotte ISD students currently observe a moment of silence each school day pursuant to the Texas Education Code whereby they may, if they so choose, pray, meditate, or reflect in any manner that is not likely to interfere with or distract other students;

WHEREAS, in the opinion of at least a majority of the individual members of the Charlotte ISD Board of Trustees, the provisions of Section 25.0823 of the Texas Education Code seem to create significant additional administrative burdens while providing comparatively few additional opportunities for students wishing to practice their religious faith while on school grounds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Charlotte ISD Board of Trustees is committed to cultivating and maintaining a school environment that respects each student's and teacher's religious faith and/or other views regarding religion; and

THEREFORE, the Charlotte ISD Board of Trustees, in consideration of the law and policies set forth above, hereby votes to refrain from adopting the policy contemplated by Senate Bill 11, 89th Legislature, which is codified at Texas Education Code § 25.0823.

PRESENTED AND APPROVED 2/25/2026

[Signature]

Board President

[Signature]

Board Secretary