RULE IMPACT STATEMENT

210:35-3-251. Voluntary prayer [NEW] 210:35-3-252. Minute of silence in public schools [NEW]

a. What is the purpose of the proposed rule change?

The purpose of this rule change is to enforce compliance with existing law regarding school districts permitting voluntary prayer and offering a minute of silence.

b. What classes of persons will be affected by the proposed rule change and what classes of persons will bear the costs of the proposed rule change?

The rule change will impose limited administrative costs on local education agencies (LEAs) who do not have their existing compliance in a written policy.

c. What classes of persons will benefit from the proposed rule change?

The rule change will benefit school communities by providing clear guidance on their school's approach regarding voluntary prayer and a minute of silence.

d. What is the probable economic impact of the proposed rule upon affected classes of persons or political subdivisions?

The agency anticipates minimal economic impact upon political subdivisions or affected classes due to implementation of the proposed rule change at this time because creating written policies for compliance is a minor administrative burden.

e. What is the probable cost to the agency to implement and enforce the proposed rule change?

The agency anticipates little cost to the agency to implement and enforce the rule as a result of the proposed change. Additional recordkeeping, if any, can be performed by existing staff.

f. What is the economic impact on any political subdivision to implement the proposed rule change? Will the rule require their cooperation in implementing or enforcing the rule?

The agency anticipates minimal economic impact on political subdivisions to implement the proposed rule change because creating written policies for compliance is a minor administrative burden.

g. Will implementing the rule change have an adverse effect on small business as provided by the Oklahoma Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act?

The agency does not anticipate any adverse economic impact on small business as a result of the proposed rule change at this time.

h. What methods has the agency taken to minimize compliance costs? Are there any other methods which are less costly, nonregulatory, or less intrusive to achieve the purpose of the proposed rule change?

The agency does not anticipate any material costs and is not aware of any measures that would minimize costs as a result. The agency is not aware of any other methods that could achieve the intended goal at a reduced burden.

i. Will the rule change impact the public health, safety, and environment, and is the change designed to reduce significant risks to the public health, safety, and environment? If so, explain nature of risk and to what extent the proposed rule change will reduce the risk.

The rule change does not concern public health, safety, or the environment.

j. What detrimental effect will there be on the public health, safety, and environment if the rule change is not implemented?

The agency does not anticipate any detrimental effect on public health, safety, or environment as a result of failure to implement the proposed rule at this time.

k. Date Prepared: January 11, 2024