

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 575 (SB 135)

2016 Regular Session

Milkovich

New law provides that a political subdivision may open proceedings with a voluntary prayer. However, no official or standard prayer shall be prescribed by the political subdivision.

New law is intended to reflect the tradition and practice of ceremonial invocations that are meant to lend gravity to a public occasion.

New law implementation is to be neutral toward religion, and shall not be intended nor interpreted as state support of or interference with religion or promoted as a religious exercise.

New law is not to limit or restrict the rights of any individual voluntarily choosing to pray at the opening of proceedings as it relates to the individual's right of freedom of speech or right of the free exercise of religion as guaranteed pursuant to the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Effective August 1, 2016.

(Adds R.S. 33:9682)