

HOUSE No. 2416

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 28, 1949.

The committee on Education, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 442) of Ralph W. Sullivan that the teaching of atheistic communism be prevented and relative to safeguarding the Christian ideals of American education, report the accompanying bill (House, No. 2416).

For the committee,

RALPH W. SULLIVAN.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Nine.

AN ACT TO PREVENT THE TEACHING OF ATHEISTIC COMMUNISM AND SAFEGUARD THE CHRISTIAN IDEALS OF AMERICAN EDUCATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 36 of chapter 272 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, is hereby
3 amended by inserting in line 6, after the word “scrip-
4 tures”, the words:— or advocates the doctrines of
5 atheistic communism, — and by adding at the end
6 thereof the following:— Any person who shall have
7 been convicted of a violation of this section, so far as
8 it relates to advocating in the classroom the doctrines
9 of atheistic communism, may be restrained in a suit
10 in equity brought by the commonwealth in the su-
11 perior court from performing the duties of a teacher
12 in any public or private educational institution, pro-
13 vided that any restraining order or injunction shall
14 be forthwith vacated if such conviction shall be set
15 aside, — so that said section as amended will read
16 as follows:— *Section 36.* Whoever wilfully blas-
17 phemes the holy name of God by denying, cursing or
18 contumeliously reproaching God, his creation, govern-
19 ment or final judging of the world, or by cursing or
20 contumeliously reproaching Jesus Christ or the Holy

21 Ghost, or by cursing or contumeliously reproaching
22 or exposing to contempt and ridicule, the holy word
23 of God contained in the holy scriptures, or advocates
24 the doctrines of atheistic communism, shall be pun-
25 ished by imprisonment in jail for not more than one
26 year or by a fine of not more than three hundred
27 dollars, and may also be bound to good behavior.
28 Any person who shall have been convicted of a viola-
29 tion of this section, so far as it relates to advocating
30 in the classroom the doctrines of atheistic communism,
31 may be restrained in a suit in equity brought by the
32 commonwealth in the superior court from performing
33 the duties of a teacher in any public or private educa-
34 tional institution, provided that any restraining order
35 or injunction shall be forthwith vacated if such con-
36 viction shall be set aside.

