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The Independent

Satanic Temple prepares to enter Florida schools as state moves to pass bill allowing chaplains to volunteer

By Dan Gooding, 16 hours ago

The organisation known as the [Satanic Temple](#) is getting ready to send its chaplains into [Florida schools](#), as a bill edges closer to adoption that allows volunteer chaplains in schools.

The religious group, which does not actually believe in Satan, encourages “effective and artful protest”, according to its website.

In the ten years since its conception, the group has advocated for First Amendment rights, as well as [religious freedom](#), across the [United States](#).

The Satanic Temple also runs a series of after school groups, saying they are an alternative to offerings by other religions. Groups are only set up when other religious groups are present on campus.

Now, Florida’s legislature is close to passing a bill which would allow the group’s chaplains into schools alongside other religious leaders.

[The bill](#), known as House Bill 931 or Senate Bill 7044, passed its final committee hearing earlier this week. A final Senate vote looks imminent, with the law set to take effect on 1

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The Catholic Temple did not immediately respond to a request for comment from *The Independent*, but one of its leaders [told the Tallahassee Democrat](#) that the group was ready to help kids.

“Any opportunity that exists for ministers or chaplains in the public sector must not discriminate based on religious affiliation,” director of ministry Penemue Grigori told the outlet.

“Our ministers look forward to participating in opportunities to do good in the community, including the opportunities created by this bill, right alongside the clergy of other religions.”

As well as seeking to offer that alternative for school kids, the group also advocates for reproductive rights, the safety of mental health patients and alternative addiction recovery methods.

These traits would seem to align with the ideas behind Florida’s bill, which is being touted as a way to help students with their mental health needs.

However, parents will have to give their consent before their child meets with a chaplain. Background checks will also be necessary before a volunteer can work in a school and it will be down to individual school boards or charter school leaders to decide how to adopt the new policy.

[A similar bill](#) passed recently in [Utah](#), promising chaplains would be “nondenominational and fair to all”, while [Texas](#) passed its version last year.



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 **Anna Rose** 11h ago

And they call good evil and evil good in the last days. Right before the coming of the son of man. Come Lord Jesus come. The judgment of God is going to fall on America hard.

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 **Ryan Brown** 12h ago

Florida where logic and your freedoms go to die. Keep all religion out of public school. Problem solved. Our forefathers said as much. worship what you want or who you want but we will establish no religion in our country. keep that stuff in your homes or temples and churches. no one needs to know what brand of fairytales you believe in vs your neighbors and the fairytales they believe in. if they believe in fairytale beings at all.

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