



### **HB 2654 patriotic youth groups; school access (Thorpe)**

This bill allows representatives from youth organizations to address students in school, subject to certain limitations.

- Defines youth organizations as any of the following:
  - Big Brothers Big Sisters of America
  - Boy Scouts of America
  - Boys and Girls Clubs of America
  - Future Farmers of America
  - Girl Scouts of the United States of America
  - A youth group or youth organization approved by either the school district governing board or charter school governing body or the principal of the school
- Permits a principal to allow a representative from each youth organization a single opportunity each year to address students during regular school hours.
- Requires the opportunity to occur during the first quarter of the school year and not exceed 10 minutes in length
- Requires a representative wishing to speak to submit a request to the principal within the first two weeks of the school year
- Requires the principal to ensure that materials provided by the organization are distributed directly to students on school property
- Permits the principal to request prior approval of the materials and to determine the method of distribution
- Prohibits a public school from denying equal access or a fair opportunity to address students to, or discriminate against, any of the organizations that wish to address students