

# ABINGTON SCHOOL DIST. v. SCHEMPP, 374 U.S. 203 (1963)

Argued February 27-28, 1963. Decided June 17, 1963.

Together with No. 119, Murray et al. v. Curlett et al., constituting the Board of School Commissioners of Baltimore City, on certiorari to the Court of Appeals of Maryland. Syllabus:

Because of the prohibition of the First Amendment against the enactment by Congress of any law "respecting an establishment of religion," **which is made applicable to the States by the Fourteenth Amendment**, no state law or school board may require that passages from the Bible be read or that the Lord's Prayer be recited in the public schools of a State at the beginning of each school day - even if individual students may be excused from attending or participating in such exercises upon written request of their parents. (Pp. 205-227)

[http://www.law.cornell.edu/supremecourt/text/374/203#writing-USSC\\_CR\\_0374\\_0203\\_ZO](http://www.law.cornell.edu/supremecourt/text/374/203#writing-USSC_CR_0374_0203_ZO)