

## PE1487: Religious Observance in schools

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Petition PE1487 regarding Religious Observance in schools.

AHDS is opposed to the change proposed in Petition PE 1487 as it would create a considerable additional administrative burden on schools without making any change to the flexibility open to children and families.

If the committee is inclined to recommend action in response to this petition then the simpler and less onerous course of action would be to reintroduce the requirement that information for parents about opting out of religious observance be included in school handbooks.

Greg Dempster AHDS General Secretary 30 September 2013