

1-1 By: King S.B. No. 9
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed June 5, 2023; June 8, 2023, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;
 1-4 June 15, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 7,
 1-5 Nays 2; June 15, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11			X	
1-12		X		
1-13			X	
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18		X		

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the display of the Ten Commandments in public school
 1-22 classrooms.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Chapter 1, Education Code, is amended by adding
 1-25 Section 1.0041 to read as follows:

1-26 Sec. 1.0041. DISPLAY OF TEN COMMANDMENTS. (a) A public
 1-27 elementary or secondary school shall display in a conspicuous place
 1-28 in each classroom of the school a durable poster or framed copy of
 1-29 the Ten Commandments that meets the requirements of Subsection (b).

1-30 (b) A poster or framed copy of the Ten Commandments
 1-31 described by Subsection (a) must:

1-32 (1) include the text of the Ten Commandments as
 1-33 provided by Subsection (c) in a size and typeface that is legible to
 1-34 a person with average vision from anywhere in the classroom in which
 1-35 the poster or framed copy is displayed; and

1-36 (2) be at least 16 inches wide and 20 inches tall.

1-37 (c) The text of the poster or framed copy of the Ten
 1-38 Commandments described by Subsection (a) must read as follows:

1-39 "The Ten Commandments
 1-40 I AM the LORD thy God.

1-41 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

1-42 Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven images.

1-43 Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

1-44 Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

1-45 Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the
 1-46 land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

1-47 Thou shalt not kill.

1-48 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

1-49 Thou shalt not steal.

1-50 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

1-51 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house.

1-52 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor
 1-53 his maidservant, nor his cattle, nor anything that is thy
 1-54 neighbor's."

1-55 (d) A public elementary or secondary school in which each
 1-56 classroom does not include a poster or framed copy of the Ten
 1-57 Commandments as required by Subsection (a) must:

1-58 (1) accept any offer of a privately donated poster or
 1-59 framed copy of the Ten Commandments provided that the poster or
 1-60 copy:

1-61 (A) meets the requirements of Subsection (b); and

2-1 (B) does not contain any additional content; and
2-2 (2) display the poster or framed copy as specified in
2-3 Subsection (a).

2-4 (e) If a public elementary or secondary school has a poster
2-5 or framed copy of the Ten Commandments in each classroom that does
2-6 not meet the requirements of Subsection (b), the school may replace
2-7 the posters or copies with posters or copies that meet the
2-8 requirements of Subsection (b) using public funds or by accepting a
2-9 private donation.

2-10 (f) A public elementary or secondary school must offer a
2-11 poster or framed copy of the Ten Commandments described by
2-12 Subsection (a) in the school's possession that is not needed for
2-13 display in a classroom as a donation to another public elementary or
2-14 secondary school.

2-15 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2023-2024
2-16 school year.

2-17 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-21 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
2-22 legislative session.

2-23 * * * * *