

1-1 By: Campbell, Middleton S.B. No. 164
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 14, 2022; February 15, 2023,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Education;
 1-4 April 6, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 12,
 1-5 Nays 0; April 6, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7	X			
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	X			
1-20	X			

1-21 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-22 AN ACT

1-23 relating to the display of the national motto and the founding
 1-24 documents of the United States in public schools and the inclusion
 1-25 of an elective course on the founding principles of the United
 1-26 States in the curriculum for public high school students.

1-27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-28 SECTION 1. Section 1.004, Education Code, is amended to
 1-29 read as follows:

1-30 Sec. 1.004. DISPLAY OF NATIONAL MOTTO AND FOUNDING
 1-31 DOCUMENTS. (a) A public elementary or secondary school ~~[or an~~
 1-32 ~~institution of higher education as defined by Section 61.003]~~ must
 1-33 display in a conspicuous place in each building of the school ~~[or~~
 1-34 ~~institution]~~ a durable poster or framed copy of the United States
 1-35 national motto, "In God We Trust," and the founding documents of the
 1-36 United States if the poster or framed copy meets the requirements of
 1-37 Subsection (b) and is:

1-38 (1) donated for display at the school ~~[or~~
 1-39 ~~institution]~~; or

1-40 (2) purchased from private donations and made
 1-41 available to the school ~~[or institution]~~.

1-42 (a-1) In this section, "founding documents of the United
 1-43 States" means:

1-44 (1) the United States Declaration of Independence;

1-45 (2) the United States Constitution; and

1-46 (3) Essays 10 and 57 of the Federalist Papers.

1-47 (b) A poster or framed copy ~~[of the national motto]~~
 1-48 described by Subsection (a):

1-49 (1) must contain:

1-50 (A) the national motto, a representation of the
 1-51 United States flag centered under the national motto, and a
 1-52 representation of the state flag;

1-53 (B) one or more of the founding documents of the
 1-54 United States; or

1-55 (C) both the items described by Paragraph (A) and
 1-56 one or more items described by Paragraph (B); and

1-57 (2) may not depict any words, images, or other
 1-58 information other than the items ~~[representations]~~ listed in
 1-59 Subdivision (1).

1-60 (c) A public elementary or secondary school ~~[and an~~
 1-61 ~~institution of higher education]~~ may accept and use private

2-1 donations for the purposes of Subsection (a).

2-2 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 28, Education Code, is
2-3 amended by adding Section 28.0111 to read as follows:

2-4 Sec. 28.0111. FOUNDING PRINCIPLES ELECTIVE. (a) Each
2-5 school district and open-enrollment charter school that offers a
2-6 high school program shall provide an elective course on the
2-7 founding principles of the United States that meets the
2-8 requirements for a one-half elective credit under Section 28.025.

2-9 (b) The course must focus on the principles underlying the
2-10 United States form of government, the Declaration of Independence,
2-11 the United States Constitution, the Federalist Papers, and the
2-12 writings of the founding fathers of the United States.

2-13 SECTION 3. Section 28.0111, Education Code, as added by
2-14 this Act, applies beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.

2-15 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-19 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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