

By: Biedermann

H.B. No. 2216

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to display of the national motto in government buildings.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subtitle E, Title 10, Government Code, is amended by adding Chapter 2207 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 2207. DISPLAY OF NATIONAL MOTTO IN GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

Sec. 2207.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Political subdivision" includes a public school district.

(2) "State agency" includes an institution of higher education, as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code.

Sec. 2207.002. DISPLAY OF NATIONAL MOTTO. (a) A building owned by this state or a political subdivision of this state must display a durable poster or framed copy of the United States national motto, "In God We Trust," if the poster or framed copy meets the requirements of Subsection (b) and is:

(1) donated for display in the building; or

(2) purchased from private donations and made available for the building.

(b) A poster or framed copy of the national motto described by Subsection (a) must contain a representation of the United States flag centered under the national motto and a representation of the state flag.

(c) A state agency and political subdivision may accept and

1 use private donations for the purposes of Subsection (a).

2 SECTION 2. Section 1.004, Education Code, is repealed.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.