

AN ACT

relating to the display of the national motto in public schools and institutions of higher education.

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

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

Sec. 1.004. DISPLAY OF NATIONAL MOTTO. (a) A public elementary or secondary school or an institution of higher education as defined by Section 61.003 must ~~may~~ display in a conspicuous place in each building of the school or institution 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 at the school or institution;

or

(2) purchased from private donations and made available to the school or institution ~~[in each classroom, auditorium, and cafeteria].~~

(b) A poster or framed copy of the national motto described by Subsection (a):

(1) must contain a representation of the United States flag centered under the national motto and a representation of the state flag; and

(2) may not depict any words, images, or other

1 information other than the representations listed in Subdivision
2 (1).

3 (c) A public elementary or secondary school and an
4 institution of higher education may accept and use private
5 donations for the purposes of Subsection (a).

6 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
7 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
8 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
9 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
10 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 797 passed the Senate on April 19, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 797 passed the House on May 25, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 106, Nays 35, four present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor