

1-1 By: Hughes S.B. No. 797  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 24, 2021; March 11, 2021,  
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;  
 1-4 April 9, 2021, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; April 9, 2021,  
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
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 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 797 By: Nelson

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

1-21 relating to the display of the national motto in public schools and  
 1-22 institutions of higher education.

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

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 1.004, Education Code, is amended to  
 1-25 read as follows:

1-26 Sec. 1.004. DISPLAY OF NATIONAL MOTTO. (a) A public  
 1-27 elementary or secondary school or an institution of higher  
 1-28 education as defined by Section 61.003 must ~~may~~ display in a  
 1-29 conspicuous place in each building of the school or institution a  
 1-30 durable poster or framed copy of the United States national motto,  
 1-31 "In God We Trust," if the poster or framed copy meets the  
 1-32 requirements of Subsection (b) and is:

1-33 (1) donated for display at the school or institution;

1-34 or

1-35 (2) purchased from private donations and made  
 1-36 available to the school or institution ~~[in each classroom,~~  
 1-37 ~~auditorium, and cafeteria].~~

1-38 (b) A poster or framed copy of the national motto described  
 1-39 by Subsection (a):

1-40 (1) must contain a representation of the United States  
 1-41 flag centered under the national motto and a representation of the  
 1-42 state flag; and

1-43 (2) may not depict any words, images, or other  
 1-44 information other than the representations listed in Subdivision  
 1-45 (1).

1-46 (c) A public elementary or secondary school and an  
 1-47 institution of higher education may accept and use private  
 1-48 donations for the purposes of Subsection (a).

1-49 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
 1-50 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
 1-51 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
 1-52 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
 1-53 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

1-54 \* \* \* \* \*