

By: Little

H.B. No. 1348

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the display of the Ten Commandments in public schools.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"The Ten Commandments

I am the LORD your God.

1. You shall have no other gods before me.

2. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

3. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

- 1 4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
2 5. Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in
3 the land the Lord your God is giving you.
4 6. You shall not murder.
5 7. You shall not commit adultery.
6 8. You shall not steal.
7 9. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
8 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet
9 your neighbor's wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or
10 donkey, nor anything that belongs to your neighbor."

11 (d) A public elementary or secondary school in which each
12 classroom does not include a poster or framed copy of the Ten
13 Commandments as required by Subsection (a) must:

14 (1) accept any offer of a privately donated poster or
15 framed copy of the Ten Commandments provided that the poster or
16 copy:

17 (A) meets the requirements of Subsection (b); and

18 (B) does not contain any additional content; and

19 (2) display the poster or framed copy as specified in
20 Subsection (a).

21 (e) If a public elementary or secondary school has a poster
22 or framed copy of the Ten Commandments in each classroom that does
23 not meet the requirements of Subsection (b), the school may replace
24 the posters or copies with posters or copies that meet the
25 requirements of Subsection (b) using public funds or by accepting a
26 private donation.

27 (f) A public elementary or secondary school must offer a

1 poster or framed copy of the Ten Commandments described by
2 Subsection (a) in the school's possession that is not needed for
3 display in a classroom as a donation to another public elementary or
4 secondary school.

5 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2025-2026
6 school year.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.