

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2003
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 57

5 By: Senator Altes
6 By: Representative Harris
7
8

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO REQUIRE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO
11 ALLOW AND ENCOURAGE TEACHERS TO READ OR DISPLAY
12 DOCUMENTS OF AMERICAN OR ARKANSAS HISTORY; AND
13 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

15 REQUIRE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ALLOW
16 AND ENCOURAGE TEACHERS TO READ OR
17 DISPLAY DOCUMENTS OF AMERICAN OR
18 ARKANSAS HISTORY.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-16-122 is amended to read as follows:
25 6-16-122. American heritage.

26 (a) Local school boards ~~may~~ shall allow and encourage any teacher or
27 administrator in a public school district of this state to read or post in a
28 public school building, classroom, or event any excerpts or portions of:

- 29 (1) The Preamble to the Arkansas Constitution;
- 30 (2) The Declaration of Independence;
- 31 (3) The United States Constitution;
- 32 (4) The Mayflower Compact;
- 33 (5) The national motto, "IN GOD WE TRUST";
- 34 (6) The national anthem;
- 35 (7) The Pledge of Allegiance;
- 36 (8) The writings, speeches, documents, and proclamations of the



1 founding fathers and Presidents of the United States;

2 (9) Organic documents from the pre-Colonial, Colonial,
3 Revolutionary, Federalist, and post-Federalist eras;

4 (10) United States Supreme Court decisions; and

5 (11) Acts of the United States Congress.

6 (b) There shall be no content-based censorship of American history or
7 heritage in this state based on religious or other references in these
8 writings, documents, and records.

9 (c) A copy of this section shall be distributed to the superintendent
10 of each school district in the state by the Department of Education,
11 whereupon the superintendents then shall provide a copy to each teacher and
12 each school board member.

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