

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

As Engrossed: S2/20/03
A Bill

SENATE BILL 57

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

9 **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

15 **Subtitle**

16 REQUIRE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ALLOW
17 AND ENCOURAGE TEACHERS TO READ OR
18 DISPLAY DOCUMENTS OF AMERICAN OR
19 ARKANSAS HISTORY.
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21

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*;
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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14 /s/ Altes
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