

1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H2/23/15 H3/2/15*

2 90th General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2015

HOUSE BILL 1272

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5 By: Representatives Harris, Bentley, Boyd, Deffenbaugh, Dotson, C. Douglas, Farrer, Holcomb, Lemons,
6 Lundstrum, Miller, Payton, Richmond, Scott, Speaks, Womack

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For An Act To Be Entitled

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AN ACT TO ALLOW SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO RECOGNIZE AND

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EDUCATE STUDENTS ON TRADITIONAL WINTER CELEBRATIONS;

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AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

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TO ALLOW SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO RECOGNIZE

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AND EDUCATE STUDENTS ON TRADITIONAL

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WINTER CELEBRATIONS.

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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 10, Subchapter 1, is amended
23 to add an additional section to read as follows:

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6-10-126. Winter celebrations.

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(a) A school district may educate students about the history of

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traditional winter celebrations and allow students and school district staff

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to offer traditional greetings regarding the celebrations, including without

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limitation:

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(1) Merry Christmas;

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(2) Happy Hanukkah; and

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(3) Happy Holidays.

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(b) Except as provided under subsection (c) of this section, a school

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district may display on school property scenes or symbols associated with a

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traditional winter celebration, including without limitation, a menorah or

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Christmas image, if the display includes a scene or symbol of:

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(1) More than one (1) religion; or



1 (2) One (1) religion and a secular scene or symbol.
2 (c) School district education regarding the history of traditional
3 winter celebrations, school district offerings of traditional greetings
4 regarding the celebrations, and displays related to traditional winter
5 celebrations may not include a message that encourages adherence to a
6 particular religious belief.

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/s/Harris