

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1923

4
5 By: Representatives Morris, Wood, Wilkins, Bledsoe, Elliott, Parks, Rackley, R. Smith, Taylor, T. Thomas

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO PERMIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS
10 TO PLACE THE TEN COMMANDMENTS ON DISPLAY; AND FOR
11 OTHER PURPOSES. "

Subtitle

13 "TO PERMIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC
14 BUILDINGS TO PLACE THE TEN COMMANDMENTS
15 ON DISPLAY. "

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19 WHEREAS, The Declaration of Independence declares that governments are
20 instituted to secure certain unalienable rights, including life, liberty, and
21 the pursuit of happiness, with which all human beings are endowed by their
22 creator; and

23
24 WHEREAS, The First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States
25 secures rights against laws respecting an establishment of religion or
26 prohibiting the free expression thereof, and

27
28 WHEREAS, The organic laws of the United States Code and the
29 constitutions of every state, using various expressions, recognize God as the
30 source of the blessings of liberty, and

31
32 WHEREAS, The Tenth Amendment reserves to the States respectively the
33 powers not delegated to the United States Government nor prohibited to the
34 States, and

35
36 WHEREAS, House Resolution 4154 of the 105th Congress of the United

1 States provides that the power to display the Ten Commandments on or within
2 property owned or administered by a state is declared to be among the powers
3 reserved to the states.

4
5 NOW THEREFORE,

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

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8 SECTION 1. Public schools and public buildings owned or administered by
9 the State of Arkansas or a political subdivision may display the Ten
10 Commandments on its property.

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12 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
13 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
14 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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16 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
17 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
18 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
19 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
20 act are declared to be severable.

21
22 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
23 hereby repealed.