

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 52nd Legislature (2009)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR
5 HOUSE BILL NO. 1756

By: Martin (Scott)

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8 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

9 An Act relating to schools; amending Section 4, Chapter 197, O.S.L. 2004 (70
10 O.S. Supp. 2008, Section 24-106.1), which relates to classroom displays of the
11 United States of America motto; allowing principals and teachers to utilize
12 certain documents and material in public schools and at events; listing certain
13 documents and material; prohibiting school districts from limiting certain
14 instruction because of religious references; limiting use of materials to
15 educational purposes; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 4, Chapter 197, O.S.L. 2004 (70 O.S. Supp. 2008,
18 Section 24-106.1), is amended to read as follows:

19 Section 24-106.1 A. Principals and teachers in each public ~~elementary and secondary~~ school of
20 ~~each school district~~ in this state may display in each classroom, school auditorium, and school cafeteria
21 under their supervision the following motto of the United States of America: "E PLURIBUS UNUM
22 (Out of Many One)" and "IN GOD WE TRUST". For purposes of this ~~section~~ subsection, "classroom"
23 means any room of a public school where instruction takes place.
24

1 B. Each school district in the state shall permit a principal or teacher to utilize in a public school
2 building, classroom, or at any public school event any grade-level-appropriate excerpts or portions of
3 the documents, writings, speeches, proclamations, or records relating to the history, heritage, or
4 foundation of the United States or the State of Oklahoma including, but not limited to, the:

5 1. Mayflower Compact;

6 2. Declaration of Independence;

7 3. Constitutions of the United States and the State of Oklahoma;

8 4. Federalist Papers;

9 5. Pledge of Allegiance;

10 6. National anthem;

11 7. Presidential records and speeches;

12 8. Acts and published records of Congress; and

13 9. United States Supreme Court decisions and records.

14 C. School districts shall not limit or restrain instruction in American or Oklahoma state history
15 or heritage based on religious references in documents, writings, speeches, proclamations, or the
16 materials described in subsection B of this section. These and any other materials shall be used for
17 educational purposes only and not to establish or promote any religion.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2009.

19 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
20 safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in
21 full force from and after its passage and approval.

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