

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 54th Legislature (2014)

4 HOUSE BILL 2317

By: Cleveland, Walker, Condit,  
Ritze, Kern, Bennett,  
5 Roberts (Dustin), Turner,  
6 Blackwell, Fisher and  
Nollan of the House

7 and

8 Boggs and Dahm of the  
9 Senate

10  
11 AS INTRODUCED

12 An Act relating to schools; authorizing a school  
13 district to educate about traditional winter  
14 celebrations; allowing staff and students to offer  
15 traditional greetings; providing certain examples;  
16 authorizing a school district to make certain  
17 displays; listing certain requirements; prohibiting  
18 inclusion of certain messages; providing for  
19 codification; and providing an effective date.

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

21 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
22 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 24-156 of Title 70, unless there  
23 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

24 A. A school district may educate students about the history of  
traditional winter celebrations, and allow students and district

1 staff to offer traditional greetings regarding the celebrations,  
2 including:

- 3 1. Merry Christmas;
- 4 2. Happy Hanukkah; and
- 5 3. Happy holidays.

6 B. Except as provided by subsection C of this section, a school  
7 district may display on school property scenes or symbols associated  
8 with traditional winter celebrations, including a menorah or a  
9 Christmas image such as a nativity scene or Christmas tree, if the  
10 display includes a scene or symbol of:

- 11 1. More than one religion; or
- 12 2. One religion and at least one secular scene or symbol.

13 C. A display relating to a traditional winter celebration shall  
14 not include a message that endorses, favors, disfavors or encourages  
15 adherence to a particular religious or nonreligious faith, belief or  
16 perspective.

17 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective September 1, 2014.

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19 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON COMMON EDUCATION, dated 02/11/2014  
20 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.

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