

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

HOUSE BILL 1267

By: Walker of the House

and

Boggs of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

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

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

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

A. A school district may educate students about the history of traditional winter celebrations, and allow students and district staff to offer traditional greetings regarding the celebrations, including:

1. Merry Christmas;

1 2. Happy Hanukkah; and

2 3. Happy holidays.

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

8 1. More than one religion; or

9 2. One religion and at least one secular scene or symbol.

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

14 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective September 1, 2015.

15
16 55-1-5353 KB 12/16/14
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24