

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

3 HOUSE BILL 2177

By: Bennett (John)

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to historical artifacts; providing  
8 for legislative intent; authorizing certain entities  
9 to display historically significant documents on  
10 certain property; authorizing Attorney General to  
defend certain actions; providing for codification;  
providing for noncodification; and providing an  
effective date.

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

14 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be  
15 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

16 A. Certain historical documents, monuments and writings have  
17 been recognized to commemorate freedom and the rich history of  
18 Oklahoma and the United States of America.

19 B. The Ten Commandments, Magna Carta, Mayflower Compact,  
20 Declaration of Independence, United States Constitution, Bill of  
21 Rights, Constitution of the Great State of Oklahoma, and other such  
22 historically significant documents are recognized throughout the  
23 world.  
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1 C. The Ten Commandments, Magna Carta, Mayflower Compact,  
2 Declaration of Independence, United States Constitution, Bill of  
3 Rights, Constitution of the Great State of Oklahoma, and other such  
4 historically significant documents are treasures that should be  
5 displayed proudly and resolutely in public buildings and on public  
6 grounds.

7 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
8 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2101 of Title 25, unless there  
9 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

10 A. Every county, municipality, city, town, school or any other  
11 political subdivision is authorized to display, in its public  
12 buildings and on its grounds, replicas of historical documents  
13 including, but not limited to, the Ten Commandments, Magna Carta,  
14 Mayflower Compact, Declaration of Independence, United States  
15 Constitution, Bill of Rights, Oklahoma Constitution and other  
16 historically significant documents in the form of statues,  
17 monuments, memorials, tablets or any other display that respects the  
18 dignity and solemnity of such documents.

19 B. In the event that the legality or constitutionality of any  
20 such display is challenged in a court of law, the Oklahoma Attorney  
21 General is authorized to prepare and present a legal defense of the  
22 display.

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SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.

56-1-5202 LRB 12/19/16