

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 8

2023 Regular Session

Horton

**SCHOOLS. Requires display of the national motto, "In God We Trust", in every public elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education classroom.**

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DIGEST

Present law requires each public school governing authority to display the national motto, "In God We Trust", in each building it uses and in each school under its jurisdiction.

Proposed law changes this requirement from in each building and each school to in each classroom in each school.

Present law specifies that the nature of the display shall be determined by each governing authority with a minimum requirement of a paper sign. Proposed law deletes present law and instead requires that the motto:

- (1) Be displayed on a poster or framed document that is at least 11 inches by 14 inches.
- (2) Be the central focus of the poster or framed document.
- (3) Be printed in a large, easily readable font.

Proposed law additionally requires such display of the national motto in every classroom in charter schools and on public postsecondary education institution campuses.

Proposed law provides that proposed law does not require spending public funds to purchase displays.

Proposed law authorizes governing authorities, management boards, and institutions to accept donated displays and to spend their funds or donated funds to purchase displays.

Proposed law requires the provisions of proposed law to be applicable on and after August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 17:262(A)(2) and (B); Adds R.S. 17:262(C), 3351(O)), and 3996(B)(75))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

- 1. Specify physical requirements of the display of the national motto in classrooms.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

- 1. Make proposed law applicable to charter schools.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the reengrossed bill

- 1. Require the provisions of proposed law to be applicable on and after August 1, 2026.