

**HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**

**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

**Synopsis of Senate Amendments**

1. Makes proposed law applicable after August 1, 2026.
2. Restores present law requirement that the nature of the display be determined by each public school governing authority.
3. Restores present law requirement for display in each building a public school governing authority uses.

**Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate**

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 additionally requires such display in each classroom in each school.

Present law specifies that the nature of the display shall be determined by each governing authority. Provides for a minimum requirement of a paper sign. Proposed law deletes present law minimum requirement of a paper sign 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.

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