



1 business customs and the customs of society, the *Holy Trinity Church* case held "These  
2 (customs) and many other matters which might be noticed add a volume of unofficial  
3 declarations to the mass of organic utterances that this is a Christian nation"; and

4 WHEREAS, Benjamin Franklin, in a speech that he made at the Constitutional  
5 Convention June 28, 1787, stated "We have been assured, Sir, in the Sacred Writings, that  
6 'except the Lord build the House, they labor in vain that build it.' I firmly believe this; and  
7 I also believe that without His concurring aid, we shall succeed in this political building no  
8 better than the builders of Babel"; and

9 WHEREAS, George Mason, in his Virginia Declaration of Rights, which was a  
10 forerunner to our United States Bill of Rights, affirmed, "It is the mutual duty of all to  
11 practice Christian forbearance, love, and charity towards each other"; and

12 WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln said in his first inaugural address that "Intelligence,  
13 patriotism, Christianity, and a firm reliance on Him, who has never forsaken this favored  
14 land, are still competent to adjust, in the best way, all our present difficulty"; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1777, facing a national shortage of "Bibles for our schools, families,  
16 and for the public worship of God in our churches," the Continental Congress announced  
17 that it "desired to have a Bible printed under their care & by their encouragement" and  
18 therefore ordered twenty thousand copies of the Bible to be imported "into the different ports  
19 of the United States of the Union"; and

20 WHEREAS, in 1782, Congress pursued a plan to print a Bible that would be "a neat  
21 edition of the Holy Scriptures for the use of schools" and, therefore, approved the production  
22 of the first English-language Bible printed in America that contained the congressional  
23 endorsement that "the United States in Congress assembled...recommended this edition of  
24 the Bible to the inhabitants of the United States"; and

25 WHEREAS, the 1783 Treaty of Paris which officially ended the American  
26 Revolution and established the United States of America as an independent nation begins  
27 with the appellation "In the name of the most holy and undivided Trinity";

28 WHEREAS, in 1789, Congress, in the midst of framing the Bill of Rights and the  
29 First Amendment, passed the first federal law touching education, declaring that "Religion,  
30 morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of

1 mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged"; and

2 WHEREAS, in 1789, on the same day that Congress finished drafting the First  
3 Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America, it requested President  
4 Washington to declare a national day of prayer and thanksgiving, resulting in the first federal  
5 official Thanksgiving proclamation that declared "it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge  
6 the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and to  
7 humbly implore His protection and favor"; and

8 WHEREAS, in addition to these leaders, many other men and women who were  
9 pivotal figures of American history were statesmen of faith and integrity who did not hesitate  
10 to express their Christian beliefs.

11 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
12 recognize May 10 through 16, 2009, as "Christian Heritage Week in Louisiana."

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
14 Christian Home Educators Fellowship of Louisiana and Teen Pact Leadership School.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Carla S. Roberts.

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DIGEST

Smith

SCR No.

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