SLS 18RS-577 ORIGINAL

2018 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 224

BY SENATOR BARROW

SCHOOLS. Require instruction and display of the national motto "In God We Trust" in public schools. (gov sig)

AN ACT 1 2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:262(A), relative to public schools; to require instruction on the patriotic customs of the United States, including the national motto; to require 3 each public school governing authority to display the national motto in each building 4 5 it uses and in each school under its jurisdiction; and to provide for related matters. 6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 7 Section 1. R.S. 17:262(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: 8 §262. Flag and Patriotic Customs of the United States; required instruction 9 A.(1) Not later than the 2000-2001 school year, a program of instruction on 10 the flag of the United States of America shall be provided to students by the fifth 11 grade as part of the social studies curriculum in the public elementary schools of this state. Such instruction, at a minimum, shall include the history of the American flag, 12 13 etiquette, customs pertaining to the display and use of the flag, and such other patriotic exercises customs as provided by and in accordance with the provisions of 14 15 36 U.S.C. 170 et seq. on patriotic customs. (2) Not later than the 2019-2020 school year, the program of instruction 16 on patriotic customs required by this Section shall include instruction on the 17

1 national motto, "In God We Trust", and each public school governing authority 2 shall display the national motto in each building it uses and in each school under 3 its jurisdiction. 4 B. The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall adopt rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to insure the 5 proper implementation of this Section. 6 7 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not 8 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature 9 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If 10 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become 11 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

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Barrow

<u>Present law</u> requires instruction on the flag of the U.S. and other patriotic exercises provided by and in accordance with federal law.

<u>Proposed law</u> includes patriotic customs rather than "exercises" and requires the instruction to include information on the national motto, "In God We Trust". Additionally requires each public school governing authority to display the national motto in each building it uses and in each school under its jurisdiction.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:262(A))

SB 224 Original