

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2016 REGULAR SESSION

ENROLLED

Committee Substitute

for

House Bill 4225

(BY DELEGATES OVERINGTON, SOBONYA, HANSHAW,
GEARHEART, CADLE, HOUSEHOLDER, BUTLER, MOFFATT,
FRICH, ROWAN AND KELLY)

[Passed March 8, 2016; in effect ninety days from passage.]

1 AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
2 designated §5-6-17, relating to patriotic displays at public buildings; providing legislative
3 findings; allowing for the national motto, “In God We Trust”, to be displayed on public
4 buildings; allowing for the display of the POW-MIA flag at public buildings; authorizing
5 costs associated with display of national motto or POW-MIA flag may be paid with any
6 private donation, gifts, grants and bequests received by the governing authority; and
7 requiring the Department of Administration to develop guidelines for appropriate display
8 of the motto and flag.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new
2 section, designated §5-6-17, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 6. STATE BUILDINGS.

§5-6-17. Display of the national motto and POW-MIA flag.

1 (a) The Legislature finds and declares that the national motto of “In God We Trust,” is an
2 important part of our country’s history and heritage. Additionally, the POW-MIA flag is a symbol
3 of citizen concern for U.S. military personnel taken as prisoners of war (POW) or listed as missing
4 in action (MIA). These patriotic displays enhance our national pride and awareness, both of the
5 sacrifices made by service members and our heritage as Americans.

6 (b) The governing authority of any public property, public buildings and any building,
7 designed, constructed and maintained with public funds from the state, a county or a municipality
8 may prominently display on the property or building, the American national motto, “In God We
9 Trust.” Costs associated with the display of the motto may be paid with any private donations,
10 gifts, grants and bequests received by the governing authority.

11 (c) The governing authority of any public property, public buildings and any building,
12 designed, constructed and maintained with public funds from the state, a county or a municipality
13 may prominently display on the property or building, the POW-MIA flag in the same manner as

14 prescribed by this code for the required display of national and state flags. Costs associated with
15 the display of the POW-MIA flag may be paid with any private donations, gifts, grants and
16 bequests received by the governing authority.

17 (d) The Department of Administration shall develop guidelines for display of the motto and
18 POW-MIA flag.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

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Chairman, House Committee

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Chairman, Senate Committee

Originating in the House.

In effect ninety days from passage.

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Clerk of the House of Delegates

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Clerk of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Delegates

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President of the Senate

The within this the.....
day of, 2016.

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Governor