

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2023 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **Senate Bill 251**

BY SENATORS AZINGER, ROBERTS, DEEDS, MAYNARD,

TRUMP, GRADY, AND STOVER

[Introduced January 17, 2023; referred  
to the Committee on Education]



1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article,  
2 designated §18-34-1, relating to the display of the official motto of the United States in  
3 public elementary and secondary schools and in institutions of higher education.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

**ARTICLE 34. DISPLAY OF NATIONAL MOTTO.**

**§18-34-1. Display of the National Motto in schools and state institutions of higher education.**

1 (a) A public elementary or secondary school or a state institution of higher education must  
2 display in a conspicuous place in each building of the school or institution a durable poster or  
3 framed copy of the United States national motto, "In God We Trust", if the poster or framed copy  
4 meets the requirements of subsection (b) of this section and is:

5 (1) Donated for display at the school or institution; or

6 (2) Purchased from private donations and made available to the school or institution.

7 (b) A poster or framed copy of the national motto described in subsection (a) of this  
8 section:

9 (1) Must contain a representation of the United States flag centered under the national  
10 motto and a representation of the state flag; and

11 (2) May not depict any words, images, or other information other than the representations  
12 listed in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

13 (c) A public elementary or secondary school and an institution of higher education may  
14 accept and use private donations for the purposes of subsection (a) of this section.