

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 SENATE BILL 854

By: Bullard

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021,  
8 Section 24-106.1, which relates to display of the  
9 national motto in schools; requiring rather than  
10 allowing display of certain motto in certain places  
11 in public schools; providing an effective date; and  
12 declaring an emergency.

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 24-106.1, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 Section 24-106.1. A. Principals and teachers in each public  
17 school in this state ~~may~~ shall display in each classroom, school  
18 auditorium, and school cafeteria under their supervision the  
19 following motto of the United States of America: "E PLURIBUS UNUM  
20 (Out of Many, One)" and "IN GOD WE TRUST". For purposes of this  
21 subsection, "classroom" means any room of a public school where  
22 instruction takes place.

23 B. Each school district in the state shall permit a principal  
24 or teacher to utilize in a public school building, classroom, or at  
any public school event any grade-level-appropriate excerpts or

1 portions of the documents, writings, speeches, proclamations, or  
2 records relating to the history, heritage, or foundation of the  
3 United States or the State of Oklahoma including, but not limited  
4 to, the:

5 1. Mayflower Compact;

6 2. Declaration of Independence;

7 3. Constitutions of the United States and the State of  
8 Oklahoma;

9 4. Federalist Papers;

10 5. Pledge of Allegiance;

11 6. National anthem;

12 7. Presidential records and speeches;

13 8. Acts and published records of Congress; and

14 9. United States Supreme Court decisions and records.

15 C. School districts shall not limit or restrain instruction in  
16 American or Oklahoma state history or heritage based on religious  
17 references in documents, writings, speeches, proclamations, or the  
18 materials described in subsection B of this section. These and any  
19 other materials shall be used for educational purposes only and not  
20 to establish or promote any religion.

21 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

22 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
23 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby  
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1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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