

# SENATE BILL NO. 643

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR HUDSON.

2562S.01H

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

## AN ACT

To amend chapter 171, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the Ten Commandments in schools.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 171, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto  
2 one new section, to be known as section 171.022, to read as  
3 follows:

171.022. 1. As used in this section, "Ten  
2 Commandments" means the following text:

3 "The Ten Commandments

4 I AM the LORD thy God.

5 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

6 Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven images.

7 Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in  
8 vain.

9 Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

10 Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be  
11 long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

12 Thou shalt not kill.

13 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

14 Thou shalt not steal.

15 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

16 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt  
17 not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his

18 maidservant, nor his cattle, nor anything that is thy  
19 neighbor's."

20 2. Beginning on January 1, 2026, each school  
21 district's school board and charter school's governing board  
22 shall display the Ten Commandments in each building and  
23 classroom under the school board's or governing board's  
24 jurisdiction, subject to at least the following requirements:

25 (1) The nature of such display shall be determined by  
26 each school board and governing board;

27 (2) Such display shall be composed of, at a minimum, a  
28 poster or framed document that is at least eleven inches by  
29 fourteen inches; and

30 (3) The text of the Ten Commandments shall be the  
31 central focus of the poster or framed document and shall be  
32 printed in a large, easily readable font.

33 3. (1) A school board or governing board may spend  
34 the board's moneys or donated moneys to purchase the  
35 displays.

36 (2) A school board or governing board may accept  
37 donated displays.

38 (3) This section shall not be construed to require a  
39 school board or governing board to spend the board's moneys  
40 to purchase displays.

41 4. The state board of education may promulgate all  
42 necessary rules and regulations for the administration of  
43 this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term  
44 is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the  
45 authority delegated in this section shall become effective  
46 only if it complies with and is subject to all of the  
47 provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section  
48 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and  
49 if any of the powers vested with the general assembly

50 pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective  
51 date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently  
52 held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking  
53 authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28,  
54 2025, shall be invalid and void.

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