

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**2025 REGULAR SESSION**

**Engrossed**

## **Senate Bill 280**

BY SENATORS AZINGER, TAYLOR, THORNE, ROSE, HART,

BARTLETT, DEEDS, AND MARTIN

[Introduced February 12, 2025; referred  
to the Committee on Education]



1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article,  
2 designated §18-36-1, 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:*

## **CHAPTER 18. EDUCATION.**

### **ARTICLE 9H. DISPLAY OF NATIONAL MOTTO.**

#### **§18-9H-1. Display of the National Motto in public schools.**

1 (a) A public elementary or secondary school shall display in a conspicuous place in every  
2 classroom of the school a durable poster or framed copy of the United States national motto, "In  
3 God We Trust": *Provided*, That the poster or framed copy of the national motto described in this  
4 section shall contain a representation of the United States flag centered under the national motto  
5 and may not depict any other words, images, or other information.

6 (b) The requirements of this section are subject to the durable posters or framed copies  
7 being donated or sufficient donations being made from which the durable posters or framed copies  
8 can be purchased.

9 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of code to the contrary, this section applies to  
10 public charter schools authorized pursuant to §18-5G-1 *et seq.*

## **CHAPTER 18B. HIGHER EDUCATION.**

### **ARTICLE 14. MISCELLANEOUS.**

#### **§18B-14-12. Display of the National Motto in institutions of higher education.**

1 (a) A state institution of higher education, as defined by §18B-1-2 of this code, shall display  
2 in a conspicuous place in every classroom of the institution of higher education a durable poster  
3 or framed copy of the United States national motto, "In God We Trust": *Provided*, That the poster  
4 or framed copy of the national motto described in this section shall contain a representation of the

5 United States flag centered under the national motto and may not depict any other words, images,  
6 or other information.

7 (b) The requirements of this section are subject to the durable posters or framed copies  
8 being donated or sufficient donations being made from which the durable posters or framed copies  
9 can be purchased.