

State of South Dakota

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2019

785B0027

HOUSE ENGROSSED NO. **SB 55** - 2/27/2019

Introduced by: Senators Jensen (Phil), Blare, Bolin, Cammack, Curd, DiSanto, Ewing, Greenfield (Brock), Klumb, Kolbeck, Langer, Monroe, Nelson, Otten (Ernie), Russell, Schoenbeck, Stalzer, Steinhauer, Sutton, and Youngberg and Representatives Johnson (Chris), Beal, Brunner, Chaffee, Dennert, Deutsch, Diedrich, Frye-Mueller, Glanzer, Goodwin, Gosch, Greenfield (Lana), Hammock, Haugaard, Howard, Jensen (Kevin), Latterell, Livermont, Marty, Mills, Mulally, Perry, Peterson (Sue), Pischke, Qualm, Randolph, Reimer, Steele, Weis, Wiese, and York

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to require the national motto of the United States to be
2 displayed in public schools.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. That chapter 13-24 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

5 Beginning in the 2019-2020 school year, the national motto of the United States, "In God
6 We Trust," shall be displayed in each public school. The display shall be located in a prominent
7 location within each public school. The display may take the form of a mounted plaque, student
8 artwork, or any other appropriate form as determined by the school principal. The display shall
9 be easily readable and may be no smaller than twelve inches wide by twelve inches high.

10 For the purposes of this section, a prominent location is a school entryway, cafeteria, or
11 other common area where students are most likely to see the national motto display.

12 Section 2. That chapter 13-24 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:



1 For any lawsuit brought or any complaint filed against a school district, an employee of a
2 school district, the board of a school district, or a member thereof as a result of a school district
3 displaying the national motto of the United States in accordance with section 1 of this Act, the
4 attorney general shall provide legal representation at no cost to the school district, employee,
5 school board, or member of the school board.

6 In addition to the expenses of representation, the state shall assume financial responsibility
7 for any other related expense incurred by the school district, an employee, the board, or member
8 thereof, including any award for monetary damages, attorney's fees, and costs for which the
9 school district, an employee, the board, or a member thereof would be otherwise responsible.