

By: White (29th), King, Chaney, Hyde-Smith,  
Kirby, Scoper

To: Public Property;  
Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 2540

1 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DISPLAY OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS ON  
2 PUBLIC PROPERTY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

3 WHEREAS, the Ten Commandments are a declaration of  
4 fundamental principles that are the cornerstone of a fair and just  
5 society; and

6 WHEREAS, the Declaration of Independence declares that  
7 governments are instituted to secure certain unalienable rights,  
8 including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, with which  
9 all human beings are endowed by their Creator to which they are  
10 entitled by the laws of nature and of nature's God; and

11 WHEREAS, the organic laws of the United States Code and the  
12 constitutions of every state, using various expressions, recognize  
13 God as the source for the blessings of liberty; and

14 WHEREAS, the First Amendment to the Constitution of the  
15 United States and Section 18 of the Mississippi Constitution of  
16 1890 secure rights against laws respecting an establishment of  
17 religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; and

18 WHEREAS, disputes and doubts have arisen with respect to  
19 public displays of the Ten Commandments, NOW, THEREFORE:

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

21 SECTION 1. The Ten Commandments may be displayed on or

22 within property owned or administered by the state or its  
23 political subdivisions.

24 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
25 and after its passage.