

By: Senator(s) Rhodes

To: Education

## SENATE BILL NO. 2531

1       AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DISPLAY OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS IN ALL  
2 PUBLIC SCHOOL CLASSROOMS; TO ESTABLISH PARAMETERS FOR THE DISPLAY;  
3 TO PROVIDE GUIDELINES FOR ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR SUCH DISPLAYS;  
4 TO IDENTIFY ADDITIONAL HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS THAT MAY  
5 BE INCLUDED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE TEN COMMANDMENTS; AND FOR  
6 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8       **SECTION 1.** (1) The Legislature finds that the Ten  
9 Commandments represent a key part of the historical and moral  
10 foundation of the legal and educational traditions of the United  
11 States. These values have significantly influenced the  
12 development of law and government, and their display in public  
13 institutions is intended to serve an educational purpose in line  
14 with American history.

15       (2) (a) Effective January 1, 2026, all public school  
16 classrooms in the State of Mississippi, from kindergarten through  
17 twelfth (12th) grade, shall prominently display the Ten  
18 Commandments.

19       (b) The display must meet the following criteria:

20 (i) The Ten Commandments shall be presented on a  
21 poster or framed document of at least eleven (11) inches by  
22 fourteen (14) inches;

23 (ii) The text shall be in a large, legible font;  
24 and

25 (iii) Each display shall be accompanied by a  
26 four-paragraph context statement explaining the historical role of  
27 the Ten Commandments in American public education, which shall be  
28 provided by the Mississippi Department of Education.

33                   (4) Public schools may choose to display other historically  
34 significant documents in conjunction with the Ten Commandments,  
35 including:

42           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
43 and after its passage.

