

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

As Engrossed: H2/23/15 H3/2/15
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1272

By: Representatives Harris, Bentley, Boyd, Deffenbaugh, Dotson, C. Douglas, Farrer, Holcomb, Lemons, Lundstrum, Miller, Payton, Richmond, Scott, Speaks, Womack

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ALLOW SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO RECOGNIZE AND
EDUCATE STUDENTS ON TRADITIONAL WINTER CELEBRATIONS;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO ALLOW SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO RECOGNIZE
AND EDUCATE STUDENTS ON TRADITIONAL
WINTER CELEBRATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 10, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-10-126. Winter celebrations.

(a) A school district may educate students about the history of traditional winter celebrations and allow students and school district staff to offer traditional greetings regarding the celebrations, including without limitation:

- (1) Merry Christmas;
- (2) Happy Hanukkah; and
- (3) Happy Holidays.

(b) Except as provided under subsection (c) of this section, a school district may display on school property scenes or symbols associated with a traditional winter celebration, including without limitation, a menorah or Christmas image, if the display includes a scene or symbol of:

- (1) More than one (1) religion; or



(2) One (1) religion and a secular scene or symbol.

(c) School district education regarding the history of traditional winter celebrations, school district offerings of traditional greetings regarding the celebrations, and displays related to traditional winter celebrations may not include a message that encourages adherence to a particular religious belief.

/s/Harris