



HOUSE BILL 215: General Assembly/"In God We Trust" Display.

2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	May 2, 2023
Introduced by:	Reps. Moss, Kidwell, McNeely, Sossamon	Prepared by:	Brad Krehely
Analysis of:	First Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 215 would require the Legislative Services Officer to display the national motto "In God We Trust" behind the dais of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate. The act would become effective July 1, 2023.*

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S191, as introduced by Sens. Hanig, Alexander, Ford, which is currently in Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate.]

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 120-32.1 addresses the use and maintenance of the State legislative buildings and grounds. "In God We Trust" is not required to be displayed behind the dais of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate.

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 would require the Legislative Services Officer to display the national motto "In God We Trust" behind the dais of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate. The display must be consistent with the display located directly above and behind the dais of the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

Section 2 would require the Legislative Services Officer to first use any funds gifted to the State by a private individual or entity for this purpose. If any funds received in this manner are unappropriated, the funds are appropriated to carry out the act.

Section 3 would provide that if no funds are gifted by no later than 90 days from the effective date of the act, the Legislative Services Officer may use available funds to cover the costs of this requirement.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would become effective July 1, 2023.

Jeffrey Hudson
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578