

1 SB181
2 189766-3
3 By Senator Dial (Constitutional Amendment)
4 RFD: Constitution, Ethics and Elections
5 First Read: 16-JAN-18

1 SB181

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4 ENROLLED, An Act,

5 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of
6 Alabama of 1901, providing for certain religious rights and
7 liberties; authorizing the display of the Ten Commandments on
8 state property and property owned or administrated by a public
9 school or public body; and prohibiting the expenditure of
10 public funds in defense of the constitutionality of this
11 amendment.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

13 Section 1. The following amendment to the
14 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, is proposed and
15 shall become valid as a part thereof when approved by a
16 majority of the qualified electors voting thereon and in
17 accordance with Sections 284, 285, and 287 of the Constitution
18 of Alabama of 1901, as amended:

19 PROPOSED AMENDMENT

20 Every person shall be at liberty to worship God
21 according to the dictates of his or her own conscience. No
22 person shall be compelled to attend, or, against his or her
23 consent, to contribute to the erection or support of any place
24 of religious worship, or to pay tithes, taxes, or other rates
25 for the support of any minister of the gospel. Property

1 belonging to the state may be used to display the Ten
2 Commandments, and the right of a public school and public body
3 to display the Ten Commandments on property owned or
4 administered by a public school or public body in this state
5 is not restrained or abridged. The civil and political rights,
6 privileges, and capacities of no person shall be diminished or
7 enlarged on account of his or her religious belief. No public
8 funds may be expended in defense of the constitutionality of
9 this amendment.

10 The Ten Commandments shall be displayed in a manner
11 that complies with constitutional requirements, including, but
12 not limited to, being intermingled with historical or
13 educational items, or both, in a larger display within or on
14 property owned or administered by a public school or public
15 body.

16 Section 2. An election upon the proposed amendment
17 shall be held in accordance with Sections 284 and 285 of the
18 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Sections 284
19 and 285 of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of
20 Alabama of 1901, as amended, and the election laws of this
21 state.

22 Section 3. The appropriate election official shall
23 assign a ballot number for the proposed constitutional
24 amendment on the election ballot and shall set forth the

1 following description of the substance or subject matter of
2 the proposed constitutional amendment:

3 "Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of
4 Alabama of 1901, providing for certain religious rights and
5 liberties; authorizing the display of the Ten Commandments on
6 state property and property owned or administrated by a public
7 school or public body; and prohibiting the expenditure of
8 public funds in defense of the constitutionality of this
9 amendment.

10 "Proposed by Act _____."

11 This description shall be followed by the following
12 language:

13 "Yes () No ()."

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SB181

Senate 27-FEB-18

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed the Senate.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives
Passed: 22-MAR-18

By: Senator Dial