

1 SB18
2 154437-2
3 By Senators Allen, Fielding, Hightower, Marsh, Waggoner,
4 Glover, Reed and Orr
5 RFD: Judiciary
6 First Read: 14-JAN-14
7 PFD: 08/21/2013

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8 SYNOPSIS: Existing law does not expressly allow a
9 school district to educate students about the
10 history of traditional winter celebrations and
11 allow students and district staff to offer
12 traditional greetings regarding the celebrations.

13 This bill would allow each school district
14 to educate students about the history of
15 traditional winter celebrations and allow students
16 and district staff to offer traditional greetings
17 regarding the celebrations.

18
19 A BILL
20 TO BE ENTITLED
21 AN ACT
22

23 To allow school districts to educate students about
24 the history of traditional winter celebrations and allow
25 students and district staff to offer traditional greetings
26 regarding the celebrations.

27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

1 Section 1. (a) Each school district may educate
2 students about the history of traditional winter celebrations
3 and allow students and district staff to offer traditional
4 greetings regarding the celebrations, including, but not
5 limited to, any of the following:

6 (1) Merry Christmas.

7 (2) Happy Hanukkah.

8 (3) Happy holidays.

9 (b) Except as provided by subsection (c), a school
10 district may display on school property scenes or symbols
11 associated with traditional winter celebrations, including a
12 menorah or a Christmas image such as a nativity scene or
13 Christmas tree, if the display includes a scene or symbol of
14 one or more of the following:

15 (1) More than one religion.

16 (2) One religion and at least one secular scene or
17 symbol.

18 (c) A display relating to a traditional winter
19 celebration may not include a message that encourages
20 adherence to a particular religious belief.

21 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
22 first day of the third month following its passage and
23 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.