

House Bill 702 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Morris of the 156th, Battles of the 15th, and Nix of the 69th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 3 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state
2 flag, seal, and other symbols, so as to authorize placement of a monument of religious
3 liberty; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

6 Chapter 3 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state flag, seal,
7 and other symbols, is amended by adding a new article to read as follows:

8 style="text-align:center">"ARTICLE 5

9 50-3-105.

10 (a) Subject to the availability of funds, there shall be placed within the capitol building or
11 grounds a historic granite monument depicting:

12 (1) The Preamble to the Georgia Constitution;

13 (2) The part of the Declaration of Independence which states that 'We hold these truths
14 to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator
15 with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of
16 Happiness.'; and

17 (3) The Ten Commandments.

18 (b)(1) Such monument shall be designed, procured, and placed by the Capitol Art
19 Standards Commission, subject to final approval by a monument committee composed
20 of the following members of the General Assembly:

21 (A) Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
22 House of Representatives;

23 (B) Two members of the Senate appointed by the Lieutenant Governor; and

24 (C) One member from each house of the General Assembly appointed by the
25 Governor.
26 (2) The monument committee established pursuant to this subsection shall stand
27 abolished upon placement of such monument.
28 (c) No public funds shall be expended for the design or procurement of such monument.
29 Gifts and donations from private individuals, organizations, or foundations shall be
30 accepted and expended by the Capitol Art Standards Commission to carry out the
31 requirements of this Code section."

32 **SECTION 2.**

33 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.