

Amendment 2 will amend Missouri's Constitution to ensure that:

- Children will have the right to pray voluntarily in our public schools.
- Citizens will have the right to pray and acknowledge God in public settings and on public property.
- Elected officials will have the right to pray and acknowledge God in public meetings and public ceremonies.
- Students will have the right to express their belief in God in their school work and classroom discussions.
- Students will have the right to decline participation in school assignments or programs that violate their religious beliefs.
- Every public school in the state of Missouri prominently display the U.S. Bill of Rights.

Undoubtedly you would agree that religious liberty is one of America's most important and cherished freedoms. Our forefathers, in their wisdom, included a clause in the U.S. Constitution guaranteeing that no citizen's expression of religious freedom would be impeded by the government.

Unfortunately, we live in an era where there is confusion over the precise religious liberty rights that the 1st Amendment actually guarantees.

To help clarify those rights, the 96th Missouri General Assembly passed Joint Resolution #2 in 2011. It is The *Prayer Amendment* and it spells out the worshiper's religious rights in the public sphere. It will appear on the August 7, 2012 State Primary Ballot.

The official ballot title is: Missouri Constitutional Amendment 2. You can go to www.PrayerAmendment.org to get more information about this amendment.

You can download the full text of the amendment at: <http://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/2012ballot/>

**Protect our
Right
to
Pray!**

**Vote Yes — August 7th
On
Amendment 2**

**The Missouri Prayer
Amendment**

Why do we need Amendment 2?

Anti-religious forces in our culture are waging a war on religious belief and expression in the public square. They are fighting to remove the words "under God" from the Pledge of Allegiance, to remove "In God We Trust" from our nation's currency, and to eliminate the National Day of Prayer. Atheist groups have gone so far as to demand the removal of memorial crosses honoring our nation's war dead.

Anti-religious organizations like the ACLU and the Freedom from Religion Foundation are determined to banish any and all references to God and our nation's religious heritage from the public arena. Years ago these forces succeeded in banning organized prayer from our public schools. Now they are determined to silence the free speech rights of students to share their religious beliefs in the public school environment. They will not stop until they strip any mention of God from our public institutions.

What will Amendment 2 do?

Amendment 2 will ensure that students can pray on a voluntary basis in their schools outside of the classroom, and can express their religious beliefs inside the classroom. Students would be able to acknowledge God in classroom discussions, and decline participation in programs that attack or undermine their religious convictions.

Citizens would be ensured the right to gather peaceably on government property to honor and acknowledge God and join in community prayer. Elected officials would have the right to recognize God and voice their religious values in public proceedings, and invite members of the clergy to offer invocations before government meetings.

What will Amendment 2 not do?

Amendment 2 will not authorize the government to establish or endorse any religion. The amendment will not allow any person to be forced to

participate in any prayer or religious activity. The amendment will not allow any teacher to lead students in organized prayer. The amendment will not allow prayer gatherings that disrupt school schedules or disturb the peace.

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