

As Introduced

133rd General Assembly

Regular Session

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H. B. No. 473

Representative Smith, T.

**Cosponsors: Representatives Lipps, Kick, Romanchuk, Stein, Riedel, Becker,
Ginter, Richardson, Seitz**

A BILL

To amend sections 5.10 and 5.101 of the Revised 1
Code to allow the state motto to be used 2
alongside the state seal. 3

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 5.10 and 5.101 of the Revised 4
Code be amended to read as follows: 5

Sec. 5.10. All official seals shall have engraved thereon 6
the coat of arms of the state, as described in section 5.04 of 7
the Revised Code. 8

The great seal of the state shall be two and one-half 9
inches in diameter and shall consist of the coat of arms of the 10
state within a circle having a diameter of one and three-fourths 11
inches, surrounded by the words "THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF 12
OHIO" in news gothic capitals. The great seal of the state shall 13
correspond substantially with the following design: 14



The design of the great seal shall not be reproduced, 16
except as required by any provision of the Ohio Constitution and 17
the Revised Code, unless permission to do so is first obtained 18
from the governor. The governor may authorize reproduction of 19
the design of the great seal when the purpose is to: 20

(A) Permit publication of a reproduction of the great seal 21
of the state of Ohio; 22

(B) Aid educational or historical programs; 23

(C) Promote the economic or cultural development of the 24
state in a manner deemed appropriate by the governor. 25

A permanent record shall be kept in the governor's office 26
of each permit to reproduce the design of the great seal. 27

No person shall use or permit to be used any reproduction 28
or facsimile of the great seal or a counterfeit or nonofficial 29
version of the great seal for any purpose not authorized by the 30
governor. 31

The seal of the supreme court shall consist of the coat of 32
arms of the state within a circle one and one-half inches in 33

diameter and shall be surrounded by the words "THE SUPREME COURT 34
OF THE STATE OF OHIO." 35

The seal of each court of appeals, court of common pleas, 36
and probate court shall consist of the coat of arms of the state 37
within a circle one and one-fourth inches in diameter, and each 38
seal shall be surrounded by the words "COURT OF 39

APPEALS, _____ County, Ohio"; "COMMON PLEAS 40

COURT, _____ County, Ohio"; or "PROBATE 41

COURT, _____ County, Ohio." 42

(Insert the name of the proper county.) 43

The seals of all other courts of record shall be of the 44
same size as the seal of the court of common pleas, and each 45
shall be surrounded by the proper name of the court. 46

The seal of the secretary of state shall consist of the 47
coat of arms of the state within a circle one and one-fourth 48
inches in diameter and shall be surrounded by the words "THE 49
SEAL OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF OHIO." 50

The seal of the auditor of state shall consist of the coat 51
of arms of the state within a circle of one and one-fourth 52
inches in diameter, and shall be surrounded by the words "THE 53
SEAL OF THE AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO." 54

The seal of the treasurer of state shall consist of the 55
coat of arms of the state within a circle one and one-fourth 56
inches in diameter, and shall be surrounded by the words "THE 57
SEAL OF THE TREASURER OF STATE OF OHIO." 58

The seal of the lieutenant governor shall consist of the 59
coat of arms of the state within a circle one and one-fourth 60
inches in diameter and shall be surrounded by the words "THE 61

SEAL OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF STATE OF OHIO." 62

The seal of the attorney general shall consist of the coat 63
of arms of the state within a circle one and one-fourth inches 64
in diameter and shall be surrounded by the words "THE SEAL OF 65
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF STATE OF OHIO." 66

The seal of each benevolent institution shall consist of 67
the coat of arms of the state within a circle one and one-fourth 68
inches in diameter and shall be surrounded by the proper name of 69
the institution. 70

The seals of all other state, county, and municipal 71
agencies, divisions, boards and commissions shall consist of the 72
coat of arms of the state within a circle one and one-fourth 73
inches in diameter and shall be surrounded by the proper name of 74
the office. 75

All seals mentioned in this section shall contain the 76
words and devices mentioned in this section and no other. The 77
official motto of the state, as described in section 5.06 of the 78
Revised Code, may be displayed alongside any seal described in 79
this section. 80

Sec. 5.101. Any official seal acquired on or after March 81
1, 2003, shall contain the official coat of arms of the state as 82
described in section 5.04 of the Revised Code and surrounded by 83
the appropriate words. Prior to that date, any official seal 84
authorized by statute is valid for all purposes. The official 85
motto of the state, as described in section 5.06 of the Revised 86
Code, may be displayed alongside any seal described in this 87
section. 88

Section 2. That existing sections 5.10 and 5.101 of the 89
Revised Code are hereby repealed. 90