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## Focus on Religious Freedom

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### *Know and Exercise your Freedom of Religion*

#### **Louisiana Law mandates Public Schools to Display the Ten Commandments**

In 2024 Louisiana became the first state to mandate a display of the Ten Commandments and other historical founding documents in every K-12 classroom in public schools. The legislature and governor expected that law to be challenged in the courts. Two courts heard challenges to the law with the higher court allowing the law to go forward. The law could still be challenged at the Supreme Court, however, Louisiana governor, Jeff Landry, has instructed schools to go forward with the displays as directed by law.

The programmed reaction from too many Americans, that the Ten Commandments display “violates separation of church and state and does not belong in public schools” results from decades of deliberate media misinformation and the lack of accurate teaching in many schools. Separation of church and state is not in the Constitution and is not a law. It was a phrase authored by Pres. Thomas Jefferson in a letter written to assure the Baptists community of Danbury, CT that ...”Religion is a matter which lies solely between man and his God. That he owes account to none other for his faith or his worship.” Jefferson emphasized separation of church and state protects individual conscience and churches from intrusion by the state. Read Jefferson’s letter here: <https://tinyurl.com/53u64waz>

Had we been taught more of America’s founding, every American would have learned the founders’ clear beliefs that the Ten Commandments and the Bible in school were necessary to the survival of this nation founded on the Creator’s gifts to each man.

***“The Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount contain my religion,” wrote John Adams to Thomas Jefferson, Nov. 4, 1816.***

***James Madison, the fourth President of the United States of America, stated that “(w)e have staked the whole future of our new nation . . . upon the capacity of each of ourselves to govern ourselves according to the moral principles of the Ten Commandments”.***