



Introduced Version

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. _____**

Introduced by: Prescott

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION recognizing the importance of
2 the Bible in history.

3 *Whereas, Johannes Gutenberg, the man who changed the*
4 *world with the invention of the printing press, chose the Bible*
5 *as the first book to be printed;*

6 *Whereas, The Bible is perennially the best-selling book, with*
7 *over five billion copies distributed during the past millennium;*

8 *Whereas, The Bible has been translated, in whole or in part,*
9 *into 3,312 different languages;*

10 *Whereas, Surveys report that 9 out of 10 Americans have*
11 *Bibles in their homes;*

12 *Whereas, Many of the great works of literature, art, and*

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1 *music in the past millennium were inspired by the Bible;*

2 *Whereas, The earliest public education law in America*
3 *(1642) was based on the importance of each student knowing*
4 *the Bible in order to avoid the civil atrocities that had beset*
5 *Europe;*

6 *Whereas, The first literacy laws in America were enacted to*
7 *protect citizens from tyrannical government through a*
8 *knowledge of the Bible;*

9 *Whereas, Our earliest constitutions, compacts, charters, and*
10 *laws, as well as various original state constitutions, reflect the*
11 *central role of the Bible in shaping America's civil institutions;*

12 *Whereas, John Locke's Treatises cited the Scriptures over*
13 *1,700 times in explaining the proper foundations for civil*
14 *government and was a primary source for drafting the*
15 *Declaration of Independence;*

16 *Whereas, During the Founding Era (1760-1805), the Bible*
17 *was heavily relied upon in the formation of our founding*
18 *documents;*

19 *Whereas, All United States presidents have taken the oath of*
20 *office on the Bible;*

21 *Whereas, The Bible has formed the basis of civil justice,*
22 *being the book on which witnesses are sworn in courts of law;*
23 *and*

24 *Whereas, The teachings in the Bible were the impetus behind*
25 *the abolition of slavery, the birth of the Civil Rights movement,*
26 *and it inspired humanitarian movements that have elevated the*
27 *lives of every American: Therefore,*

28 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the*
29 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

30 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives
31 recognizes the Bible's influential role in our country's history
32 and humanitarian progress throughout the world.



1 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
2 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to State
3 Representative John Prescott for distribution.

