



National Legal
FOUNDATION

October 4, 2025

Dear Public Official:

I write to encourage you to declare a “Christian Heritage Week” in your state or locality should you be asked to do so by a citizen, or to do so pro-actively. I also write to address some issues that may arise when considering declaring a “Christian Heritage Week.”

The National Legal Foundation is a public interest law firm that exists to preserve our religious liberties under the Constitution. Since 1985, we have successfully litigated many First Amendment cases, including multiple cases before the United States Supreme Court.

In this nation, we enjoy a long and rich tradition of giving official and public recognition to our religious heritage. We have done so in a variety of ways including public proclamations, the establishment of official days of prayer, the celebration of Thanksgiving as a public holiday, and the display of religious sentiments on our currency and on numerous government buildings.

To declare “Christian Heritage Week” would, therefore, be in keeping with our traditions and customs, some of which date back to before we were a nation, and thus would be constitutional.

Courts have used different tests over the years to judge the constitutionality of government actions that touch upon matters of religion, and you may be confused as to how to evaluate the constitutionality of a “Christian Heritage Week” proclamation. In the past, the constitutionality of a “Christian Heritage Week” proclamation might have been evaluated under a number of tests, and would have been found constitutional under any of these tests, which include (1) the “*Lemon* test” from the case of *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, 403 U.S. 602 (1971); (2) the “test from history,” from *Marsh v. Chambers*, 463 U.S. 783 (1983), and expanded upon by *Town of Greece v. Galloway*, 572 U.S. 565 (2013) and *American Legion v. American Humanist Association*, 588 U.S. 29 (2019); (3) the “endorsement” test; (4) the “coercion” test; and (5) the “psycho-coercion” test.

Importantly, on June 27, 2022, the Supreme Court of the United States, in *Kennedy v. Bremerton School District*, 597 U.S. 507 (2022), clarified that the test from history should control in most Establishment Clause cases, and “Christian Heritage Week” is certainly constitutional under that test, just as it has been, and is, under all the tests.

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President

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