

## *ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENTATION*

1. Honorable Elected Officials, thank you for placing the US Motto Action Committee on your agenda. It is my pleasure to come before you tonight.
2. This is an invitation to join the growing list of cities and counties that are "Voting Yes" to proudly and prominently display our national motto, *IN GOD WE TRUST*, in and on their governmental buildings.
3. My name is Rick Lanier and I am the Co-Founder and Vice Chairman of the *US MOTTO ACTION COMMITTEE*.
4. I served as a County Commissioner of Davidson County in Lexington, NC from 1998 to 2002. In 2002, I led my board of Commissioners to "Vote Yes", to display *IN GOD WE TRUST*, on the exterior our Governmental Center.
5. Soon after that several other surrounding cities and counties joined us in doing the same.
6. We formed the *US MOTTO ACTION COMMITTEE* for the sole purpose to promote patriotism by encouraging elected officials to "Vote Yes" to display *IN GOD WE TRUST* in and on their governmental Buildings.
7. Displaying the Motto gives ceremonial honor to public occasions and expresses confidence in our society.
8. These words have been used on US Currency since 1864.
9. This inspiring slogan is engraved above the entrance of the US Senate Chamber as well as above the Speaker's seat in the US House of Representatives.
10. On July 30, 1956, during the Dwight D. Eisenhower administration, the U.S. Congress adopted *IN GOD WE TRUST* as the official National Motto of the United States of America.
11. Thus, displaying our Motto is a legal right, protected by the first amendment.

12. On November 1, 2011 the U.S. House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly, 396 - 9, to reaffirm *IN GOD WE TRUST* as our nation's motto.
13. Congressman Randy Forbes, of Virginia, sponsored the resolution, in part, because some have mistakenly stated that "E Pluribus Unum" is our national motto.
14. Most importantly, the resolution specifically encourages the placement of the motto in and on all government buildings from courthouses to school classrooms.
15. A recent survey shows that 87% of all Americans still support the display of our National Motto.
  - a. This is our country's identity
16. In times of both war and peace, these words have been a profound source of strength and guidance to many generations of Americans.
17. As a grassroots patriotic movement, the *US MOTTO ACTION COMMITTEE* stands on solid legal ground.
18. Since Davidson County paved the way, not one legal challenge has been raised against any city or county that has "Voted Yes." This includes...
19. This effort is totally legal and there is nothing to challenge!
20. 100% of the cost comes from private donations and in most cases from your local citizens. How often do you get things offered to you free of charge with zero cost to you?
21. All across the state elected officials are quickly embracing the opportunity to display our great Motto.
22. Displaying the Motto will serve as a perpetual reminder of our Godly heritage.
23. Elected officials like you, are showing a commitment to the values that our country was founded upon.
24. Thank you in advance for voting "Yes"
25. I would be glad to answer any questions that you may have.