

• CONGRESSIONAL WORKSHOP •  
**Topic # 15**  
**Remove “Under God” from Pledge of Allegiance?**

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**Overview**

**Questions to ponder:** Is there a slippery slope argument possible? Would we then call for removal of “God” from all coinage and currency, from oaths, from all public documents and records? What about the Declaration of Independence and its referral to “Creator?” Have you kept up on Court cases affecting this topic? Do you know the history of the Pledge to include how (and why) the phrase “under God” was added about 50 years ago? Could recitation of the Pledge be voluntary? Or could the challenged phrase be customized? Who should make the final decision: voters, courts, legislators, or a minority adversely affected by the Pledge?

**Background references**

- <http://www.undergodprocon.org/?gclid=CPLX7IzWxZMCFQwxiQodm3FncQ>
- <http://ffrf.org/fttoday/1999/May99/lynn.html>
- <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/4594537/>
- <http://www.time.com/time/pow/article/0,8599,266658,00.html>
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pledge\\_of\\_Allegiance](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pledge_of_Allegiance)
- <http://history.vineyard.net/pledge.htm>
- <http://www.undergodprocon.org/bin/procon/procon.cgi?database=5A%20sub2.db&command=viewone&op=t&id=7&rnd=222.2851020746496>

**Citations supporting the affirmative**

- <http://restorethepledge.org/>
- <http://ffrf.org/fttoday/2008/janfeb/undergodsuit.php>
- <http://www.secular.org/issues/pledge/?view=summary>
- <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,994571,00.html>
- [http://www.religioustolerance.org/nat\\_pled2.htm](http://www.religioustolerance.org/nat_pled2.htm)
- <http://www.religioustolerance.org/natpled7.htm>

**Citations supporting the negative**

- <http://archives.cnn.com/2002/US/06/29/poll.pledge/>
- <http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-news/1974218/posts>
- <http://archives.cnn.com/2002/LAW/06/26/pledge.allegiance/>
- <http://michaelnewdow.com/>
- <http://www.restorethepledge.com/>
- <http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,267701,00.html>

**Additional Magazine References**

- Time, July 5, 2004, “God of Our Fathers”
- US News & World Report, June 28, 2006, “Enough Pandering Already”