

Historic First: Nativity Scene Displayed at U.S. Capitol

A nativity scene was displayed at the U.S. Capitol on Tuesday.

The “Christmas Carols and Nativity Display” was made possible after Rev. Patrick Mahoney, director of the Christian Defense Coalition, won a federal court case.

Because the steps of the U.S. Capitol building are public, peaceful demonstrations can take place.

“We are so very thankful for the opportunity to share the joyful and powerful message of Christmas at the steps of the United States Capitol,” Mahoney said in a press release. “In a hurting and wounded world, there is no more redemptive and healing message than the Christmas story. The hopeful declaration of ‘Peace on earth, goodwill toward man,’ is one that needs to be heard and embraced by all Americans.”

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“The words spoken by the prophet Isaiah centuries ago are still relevant for us today. ‘For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace,” he said, quoting Isaiah 9:6.

“This is also a significant victory for religious freedom and the 1st Amendment,” Mahoney added. “This event has ended and won the war on Christmas in the public square.”

7 months ago, we would've been arrested for having this Nativity Display on the steps of the US Capitol. However, we

won an historic federal lawsuit through the incredible work of the Center for American Liberty which allowed us on the steps! @Liberty_Ctr @pnjaban...

– Rev. Patrick Mahoney (@revmahoney) December 11, 2024

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Similarly, Texas State Senator Mayes Middleton (R) filed a bill to require a nativity scene on the state's capitol grounds during Christmas. The bill will be considered during the next legislative session.

"Religious liberties are enshrined in both our state and national constitutions," Middleton said. "In the Christmas season, it is important to reflect on one of the greatest moments of history-the birth of Jesus. Our nation and state were founded on Judeo-Christian values, and we can see many of Jesus' teachings throughout the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and laws."

"During the Christmas season, Texas can visit their beautiful capitol and be reminded of the reason for the season with a Nativity Scene on the grounds, along with the traditional Christmas trees in both the Senate and House Chambers," he said.

I filed SB 515 to require a nativity scene on Capitol grounds and celebrate Christmas.

The Christmas season serves as an important reminder of one of the most important events in human history-the birth of Jesus Christ.

– Mayes Middleton (@mayes_middleton) December 11, 2024

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