



In God We Trust.

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"In God We Trust" first appeared on U.S. coins in 1864 during the Civil War. The motto continued to appear on American currency until President Theodore Roosevelt removed it in 1907. The American public strongly opposed this change, leading to the phrase's restoration and eventual codification. On July 30, 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a joint resolution of Congress officially establishing "In God We Trust" as the national motto.

The words were first used by Francis Scott Key in *The Star-Spangled Banner*, where he wrote: "*And this be our motto: In God is our trust.*"

Some have speculated that adopting this motto was a response to the rise of the atheistic Soviet Union during the Cold War. Others have challenged its use, arguing it violates the First Amendment.

As we celebrate America this July, let us pause and thank God that we live in the United States, a land of religious liberty.

The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty advocates for religious freedom.

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