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Latest: Texas Senator José Menéndez Files Bill to Repeal Ten Commandments Classroom Law

A true story of faith under pressure. Read the first half below, then continue online.

KEY SPIRITUAL TAKEAWAY

"Censor parts of American history."

(Transliterated from the original Hindi.)

They had gathered only to pray. When prayer itself becomes the target, faith is proved not by words but by staying.

The Story - Part One

Texas state Sen. José Menéndez has filed a bill to repeal the law that puts a Ten Commandments poster in every public-school classroom in Texas. Senate Bill 115, pre-filed on 9 November 2026, would scrap SB 10, the 2025 law behind the posters.

The filing landed just days after Democrats won the Texas House and the governor's office in the 3 November midterm elections, and it sets up a fresh fight over faith, classrooms, and the role of the state.

For Emily Roth, a mother in Houston with two elementary-age children, the fight is not abstract at all. She is one of the plaintiffs suing over the classroom displays, and she says the Commandments are inappropriate for elementary school. On the other side of the same argument stands Rebecca Smith Nash, who raised money to print thousands of posters and deliver them to schools across the state.

Menéndez, a Democrat from San Antonio who represents District 26, filed the repeal on the first day lawmakers were allowed to pre-file bills for the 2027 legislative session. The timing was no accident. Democrats took the Texas House and the governor's office on 3 November, and the repeal bill is one of the first signals of what the new majority wants to do with the laws passed under Republican rule.

Governor-elect Gina Hinojosa, a Democrat, opposes the classroom displays, and Attorney General-elect Nathan Johnson, also a Democrat, has said he will not defend the law in court.

Texas Ten Commandments Repeal Bill SB 115: What Menéndez Filed

SB 115 is short in its purpose and long in its consequences. It would repeal SB 10, the 2025 law that requires a poster of the Ten Commandments, at least 16 inches wide by 20 inches tall, in every public-school classroom in Texas. The poster must be legible from anywhere in the classroom, which means it cannot be tucked away in a corner or printed so small that nobody notices it.

In practice, the Commandments hang where every child can see them, every school day.

The law has been fought in court since the day it passed. In April 2026, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld SB 10 in an en banc ruling decided by a 9-8 vote, one of the closest splits a federal appeals court can produce. The case, Nathan v. Alamo Heights ISD, is now before the United States Supreme Court, which must decide whether to hear it at all.

The justices have not yet said yes or no, and a decision on whether to take the case is expected early next year.

The Turning Point - What Happens Next

The story reaches a life-changing moment that changes everything -- and what seemed like the end is only the middle. Two reports disagree on the numbers, and one question is left unanswered: will the CCTV footage ever come out? Read the full story to find out what happens next.

PERSONAL REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When gathering to pray carries a real cost, what keeps a community coming together anyway -- and what would keep you coming?

2. The pastor's sister shielded him with her own body and fainted under the blows. What does costly, self-giving love look like in your own family or church?

3. When justice is delayed and a complaint is withdrawn under threat, how do believers hold on to truth without giving in to fear -- or to hatred?

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