NEW ORLEANS (AP) — It has been on the books for 2½ years but the only state law in the nation to impose the stigma of "creationism" on public schools remains bogged down in a legal fight.

The law is under suspension, pending final court ruling. It was signed in 1981 by Gov. Dave Treen on July 21, on the same date that the famed Scopes "monkey" trial ended in Dayton, Tenn., in 1925.

No date has been set for the second round of action to be staged before U.S. District Judge Adrian Duplantier — who once upheld a state law that schools hold one-minute prayer sessions each day.

Roundly reversed on that ruling, Duplantier now must deal with another Louisiana law that critics say is unconstitutional because it bolsters a religious belief.

What the law calls creation-science closely tracks the Book of Genesis account that God created the heavens and the earth in one week. Most creationists contend this took place about 10,000 years ago, and that creation-science proves it.

The law says that any time the theory of evolution is taught in a Louisiana public school, creation-science must be given equal time and treatment.

Evolution is the concept that every living thing has been shaped by the forces of natural selection and is descended from the simplest grouping of organic molecules over a span of millions of years.

Creationists see it as atheism rampant.

The theory has been under attack by fundamentalist religious forces ever since it was published by Charles Darwin in 1859 triggering a statewide bill promotion effort to be non-ministerial or non-ministerial, be sure to opt for the non-ministerial.

"It does the bill effort no good to have ministers out there in the public forum and the adversary will surely pick at this point..."
storm that almost equaled
the one set off by Galileo in
the 17th century when he
argued that the earth is not
the center of the solar system but instead revolves
around the sun.