

By: Representative Tullos (By Request)

To: Military Affairs

HOUSE BILL NO. 1118

1 AN ACT TO BE KNOWN AS THE HONOR AND REMEMBER FLAG RECOGNITION
 2 ACT; TO DESIGNATE THE HONOR AND REMEMBER FLAG CREATED BY HONOR AND
 3 REMEMBER, INC., AS THE SYMBOL OF OUR STATE'S CONCERN AND
 4 COMMITMENT TO HONORING AND REMEMBERING THE LIVES OF ALL MEMBERS OF
 5 THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES WHILE
 6 SERVING OR AS A RESULT OF SERVICE, AND THEIR FAMILIES; TO REQUIRE
 7 THE HONOR AND REMEMBER FLAG TO BE DISPLAYED AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS
 8 ON SPECIFIED DAYS IN A MANNER DESIGNED TO ENSURE VISIBILITY TO THE
 9 PUBLIC; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

11 **SECTION 1.** (1) Short Title. This section may be cited as
 12 the "Honor and Remember Flag Recognition Act."

13 (2) Findings. The Legislature makes the following findings:

14 (a) Since the Revolutionary War, more than one million
 15 members of the United States Armed Forces have paid the ultimate
 16 price by sacrificing their lives in the line of duty;

17 (b) The contribution of those fallen members of the
 18 Armed Forces are deserving of national recognition; and

19 (c) Currently, there is no officially recognized symbol
 20 that specifically acknowledges members of the Armed Forces who
 21 have died in the line of duty.



22 (3) Honor and Remember Flag. (a) The Honor and Remember
23 Flag created by Honor and Remember, Inc., is designated as the
24 symbol of our state's concern and commitment to honoring and
25 remembering the lives of all members of the United States Armed
26 Forces who have lost their lives while serving or as a result of
27 service and their families.

28 (b) The Honor and Remember Flag's red field represents
29 the blood shed by brave men and women who sacrificed their lives
30 for freedom, and the flag's white field and border recognizes the
31 purity of that sacrifice. The flag's blue star is a symbol of
32 active service in military conflict that dates back to World War
33 I. The flag's gold star signifies the ultimate sacrifice of a
34 warrior in active service who is not returning home and reflects
35 the value of the life given. The folded flag element highlights
36 this nation's final tribute to a fallen service member and a
37 family's sacrifice. The flag's flame symbolizes the eternal
38 spirit of the departed.

39 (c) The Honor and Remember Flag is a unifying symbol
40 recognizing this nation's solemn debt to the estimated 1.6 million
41 fallen service members throughout history and the families and
42 communities who mourn their loss.

43 (4) Required display. (a) The Honor and Remember Flag shall
44 be displayed at the locations specified in subsection (5) of this
45 section on the days specified in paragraph (b) of this subsection.



46 (b) The required Honor and Remember Flag display days
47 are the following:

48 (i) Armed Forces Day, the third Saturday in May;

49 (ii) Memorial Day, the last Monday in May;

50 (iii) Flag Day, June 14;

51 (iv) Fourth of July;

52 (v) National POW/MIA Recognition Day;

53 (vi) Veterans Day, November 11.

54 (vii) Gold Star Mother's Day, the last Sunday of
55 September; and

56 (viii) Whenever there is a state military
57 casualty.

58 (c) In addition to the days specified in paragraph (b)
59 of this subsection, the Honor and Remember Flag should be
60 displayed at all state military memorials and state veteran
61 cemeteries on any day on which the flag of the United States is
62 displayed.

63 (5) Locations for flag display. The locations for the
64 display of the Honor and Remember Flag under subsection (4) (b) are
65 the following:

66 (a) The State Capitol;

67 (b) The building that serves as the location of the
68 circuit court in a county; and

69 (c) The building that serves as the city or town hall
70 of each incorporated municipality.



71 (6) Display to be in a manner visible to the public.
72 Display of the Honor and Remember Flag under this section shall be
73 in a manner designed to ensure visibility to the public.

74 (7) Limitation. This section may not be construed or
75 applied so as to require any employee to report to work solely for
76 the purpose of providing for the display of the Honor and Remember
77 Flag for fallen members of the Armed Forces.

78 (8) Implementation. Not later than 180 days after the date
79 of the enactment of this act, the head of each department, agency,
80 or other establishment responsible for a location specified in
81 subsection (5) of this section shall prescribe such regulations as
82 necessary to carry out this section.

83 (9) Procurement and distribution of flags. Not later than 30
84 days after the date of the enactment of this act, the Department
85 of Finance and Administration shall begin the procurement of Honor
86 and Remember Flags and distribute them as necessary to permit
87 compliance with this section.

88 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
89 and after July 1, 2016.

