

By: Representative Tullos

To: Rules; Military Affairs

HOUSE BILL NO. 763

1 AN ACT TO BE KNOWN AS THE HONOR AND REMEMBER FLAG RECOGNITION
 2 ACT; TO DESIGNATE THE HONOR AND REMEMBER FLAG AS THE SYMBOL OF OUR
 3 STATE'S CONCERN AND COMMITMENT TO HONORING AND REMEMBERING THE
 4 LIVES OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHO HAVE
 5 LOST THEIR LIVES WHILE SERVING OR AS A RESULT OF SERVICE, AND
 6 THEIR FAMILIES; TO AUTHORIZE THE HONOR AND REMEMBER FLAG TO BE
 7 DISPLAYED AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS ON SPECIFIED DAYS IN A MANNER
 8 DESIGNED TO ENSURE VISIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC; AND FOR RELATED
 9 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 contributions 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 is designated as the symbol of our state's concern and
24 commitment to honoring and remembering the lives of all members of
25 the United States Armed Forces who have lost their lives while
26 serving or as a result of service and their families.

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

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

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

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



47 (i) Armed Forces Day, the third Saturday in May;
48 (ii) Memorial Day, the last Monday in May;
49 (iii) Flag Day, June 14;
50 (iv) Fourth of July;
51 (v) National POW/MIA Recognition Day;
52 (vi) Veterans Day, November 11;
53 (vii) Gold Star Mother's Day, the last Sunday of
54 September; and
55 (viii) Whenever there is a state military
56 casualty.

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

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

64 (a) The State Capitol;

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

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

69 (6) Display to be in a manner visible to the public.

70 Display of the Honor and Remember Flag under this section shall be
71 in a manner designed to ensure visibility to the public.



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

76 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
77 and after July 1, 2018.

