
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FLAGS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that more than 500,000
2 Americans have been captured and interned as prisoners of war
3 since the American Revolution. The largest number of prisoners
4 held captive occurred during the Civil War when an estimated
5 220,000 confederate soldiers were captured by the North and
6 nearly 127,000 union soldiers were interned by the South.

7 Since World War I, over 142,000 Americans, including
8 eighty-five women, have been captured and interned as prisoners
9 of war. Not included in this figure are nearly 93,000 Americans
10 who are classified as missing in action.

11 The legislature also finds that, as our country seeks out
12 Al Qaeda terrorists in the Middle East, it is important to
13 recognize and honor the extraordinary heroism of the brave men
14 and women who risked or sacrificed their lives or their freedom
15 in the past, as well as those who place their lives in harm's
16 way on a daily basis in the present, such as in Afghanistan and
17 Iraq.

1 The purpose of this Act is to require the National League
2 of Families' prisoner of war/missing in action flag to be flown
3 with the United States and Hawaiian flags to honor American
4 prisoners of war and military personnel who are missing in
5 action.

6 SECTION 2. Chapter 5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
7 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
8 read as follows:

9 "§5- Prisoner of war/missing in action flag;
10 recognition; use. (a) The State recognizes the National League
11 of Families' Prisoner of War/Missing in Action flag that was
12 recognized by the United States Congress through Pub. L. 101-355
13 on August 10, 1990.

14 (b) If a building is under the jurisdiction of the State,
15 including the state department of defense state headquarters
16 building, and the Hawaiian flag is flown under the same or a
17 separate halyard as the flag of the United States of America,
18 the prisoner of war/missing in action flag shall be flown under
19 the flag of the United States of America.

20 (c) This section shall not apply:

21 (1) To public schools as defined in section 302A-101; and

1 (2) Halyards that do not fly any flags due to safety or
2 community concerns."

3 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

5

Report Title:

Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Flag

Description:

Recognizes and requires the prisoner of war/missing in action flag to be flown with the U.S. and Hawaiian flags. (SD1)

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