
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO ORDER THAT WHENEVER THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES IS FLOWN ON A PERMANENT FLAGPOLE IN FRONT OF THE STATE CAPITOL BUILDING, THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES' POW/MIA FLAG SHALL BE FLOWN ON THE SAME HALYARD.

1 WHEREAS, in 1971, Mary Helen Hoff developed the idea for a
2 national flag as a reminder of the United States servicemembers
3 who, like her husband, Navy Commander Michael G. Hoff, were
4 Prisoners of War or Missing in Action; and

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6 WHEREAS, by the end of the Vietnam War, the United States
7 Department of Defense listed more than two thousand, five
8 hundred servicemembers as Prisoners of War (POW) or Missing in
9 Action (MIA); and

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11 WHEREAS, in 1979, the United States Congress and President
12 James Earl "Jimmy" Carter, Jr. proclaimed the first National
13 POW/MIA Recognition Day to acknowledge the servicemembers'
14 families' concerns and symbolize the steadfast resolve of the
15 American people to never forget the men and women who gave up
16 their freedom while protecting ours; and

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18 WHEREAS, in 1982, the National League of Families' POW/MIA
19 flag became the only flag other than the flag of the United
20 States to fly over the White House in Washington, D.C.; and

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22 WHEREAS, in 1990, the United States Congress passed P.L.
23 101-355, which designated the POW/MIA flag as "the symbol of our
24 Nation's concern and commitment to resolving as fully as
25 possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing and
26 unaccounted for in Southeast Asia, thus ending the uncertainty
27 for their families and the Nation"; and

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29 WHEREAS, in 1998, the Defense Authorization Act (P.L. 105-
30 85) created 36 United States Code section 189a, which addressed
31 the display of the POW/MIA flag; and



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2 WHEREAS, while 36 United States Code section 189a was
3 repealed, the operative language of that section was recodified
4 into 36 United States Code section 902, which requires the
5 POW/MIA flag to be displayed at the United States Capitol, the
6 White House, the building of the office of the United States
7 Secretary of Defense, each major military installation, and
8 other specified locations on six designated days: Armed Forces
9 Day, the third Saturday in May; Memorial Day, the last Monday in
10 May; Flag Day, June 14; Independence Day, July 4; National
11 POW/MIA Recognition Day; and Veterans Day, November 11; and
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13 WHEREAS, 36 United States Code section 902 requires the
14 POW/MIA flag to be displayed at the federal World War II
15 Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, Vietnam Veterans
16 Memorial, and the medical centers of the United States
17 Department of Veterans Affairs on any day that the flag of the
18 United States is flown; and
19

20 WHEREAS, Section 5-18.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, enacted
21 in 2010, requires the POA/MIA flag to be flown on the grounds of
22 the State Capitol on the same six designated days listed in 36
23 United States Code section 902, and allows the POW/MIA flag to
24 be flown directly under the flag of the United States if the
25 flag of the State of Hawaii is on a separate halyard from the
26 flag of the United States; and
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28 WHEREAS, Section 5-18.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, allows
29 but does not require the POA/MIA flag to be flown on the grounds
30 of the State Capitol building on other days; and
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32 WHEREAS, the flag of the United States and the flag of the
33 State of Hawaii currently displayed in front of the State
34 Capitol building are on separate permanent flagpoles; and
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36 WHEREAS, the State's Korean and Vietnam Veterans Memorial,
37 dedicated on the grounds of the State Capitol in 1994, honors
38 the four hundred fifty-four Hawaii servicemembers in the Korean
39 War and the three hundred twelve Hawaii servicemembers in the
40 Vietnam War who were killed or missing in action; and
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1 WHEREAS, the State's Eternal Flame, dedicated in 1972,
2 stands directly across the street from the flags displayed at
3 the State Capitol, and burns as a tribute to the men and women
4 of Hawaii who have served in our armed forces in the defense of
5 freedom and liberty; and

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7 WHEREAS, neither the State's Korean and Vietnam Veterans
8 Memorial nor the Eternal Flame display the POW/MIA flag on a
9 year-round basis; and

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11 WHEREAS, more frequent displays of the POW/MIA flag in
12 front of the State Capitol building would further remind Hawaii
13 residents of the servicemembers who were never able to return
14 home; now, therefore,

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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
17 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
18 Session of 2016, that the Governor of the State of Hawaii is
19 requested to order that whenever the flag of the United States
20 is flown on a permanent flagpole in front of the State Capitol
21 building, the National League of Families' POW/MIA flag shall be
22 flown on the same halyard; and

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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as long as the flag of the
25 United States and the flag of the State of Hawaii that are
26 displayed in front of the State Capitol building are flown on
27 the different halyards, the Governor is requested to order that
28 the National League of Families' POW/MIA flag be flown directly
29 under the flag of the United States; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event the flag of the
32 United States and the flag of the State of Hawaii that are
33 displayed in front of the State Capitol building are flown on
34 the same halyard, the Governor is requested to order that the
35 National League of Families' POW/MIA flag be flown directly
36 under the flag of the State of Hawaii; and

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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
39 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; the Adjutant General;
40 the Director of the Office of Veterans' Services; and the
41 Chairman of the Board of the National League of Families of
42 American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia.



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OFFERED BY: Lirde Ichizuma
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