

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 1204

As Passed House:
March 7, 2017

Title: An act relating to requiring the display of the national league of families' POW/MIA flag on certain days.

Brief Description: Requiring the display of the national league of families' POW/MIA flag on certain days.

Sponsors: Representatives Young, McCaslin, Shea, Taylor and J. Walsh.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

State Government, Elections & Information Technology: 1/31/17, 2/1/17 [DP].

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 3/7/17, 97-0.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires public entities to display the POW/MIA flag two additional days.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, ELECTIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 9 members: Representatives Hudgins, Chair; Dolan, Vice Chair; Koster, Ranking Minority Member; Volz, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Appleton, Gregerson, Irwin, Kraft and Pellicciotti.

Staff: Megan Palchak (786-7105).

Background:

All state agencies, institutions of higher education, counties, cities, and towns are required to display the National League of Families' POW/MIA flag along with the flag of the United States, and the state flag on the following days:

- March 30, Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day;
- the third Saturday in May, Armed Forces Day;

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- the last Monday in May, Memorial Day;
- June 14, Flag Day;
- July 4, Independence Day;
- July 27, National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day;
- the third Friday in September, National POW/MIA Recognition Day; and
- November 11, Veterans' Day.

Summary of Bill:

The bill requires public entities to display the POW/MIA flag on April 9, former POW recognition day and December 7, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) The flag reminds the public, especially kids, about the significance of service. There are people missing in action from war. We want to raise awareness that rescue efforts are underway.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: Representative Young, prime sponsor; and Ted Wicorek, Veterans Legislative Coalition.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.