



119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 773

H.P. 552

House of Representatives, January 28, 1999

An Act to Require the Missing-in-Action Flag to Be Flown on State-owned Flag Poles.

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative TRUE of Fryeburg. Cosponsored by Representatives: CIANCHETTE of South Portland, COLLINS of Wells, DUNLAP of Old Town, PERKINS of Penobscot, SHOREY of Calais. Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, this legislation requiring that a missing-in-action flag be flown from state-owned flag poles is being offered as a reminder of those individuals who are designated as missing in action; and

10 Whereas, the American Legion has offered to oversee the acquisition and distribution of the missing-in-action flags; and

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Whereas, it would be a fitting tribute to those designated as missing in action to have the flags distributed before Memorial Day; and

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Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §206-A is enacted to read:

- <u>§206-A. Missing-in-action flag</u>
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The Governor shall require that the missing-in-action flag 30 be flown from each state-owned flag pole where the state flag is flown until the time that all those individuals designated as 32 missing in action are released or accounted for.

- 34 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.
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- 38 SUMMARY
- 40 This bill requires that the missing-in-action flag be flown from each flag pole where the state flag is flown.