

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 471

H.P. 369

House of Representatives, February 1, 2001

An Act to Provide a Local Option on Display of the State Flag.

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

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative BROOKS of Winterport.

Cosponsored by Senator LONGLEY of Waldo and

Representatives: ASH of Belfast, BERRY of Belmont, HEIDRICH of Oxford, McKEE of Wayne, WESTON of Montville, WHEELER of Eliot, Senator: YOUNGBLOOD of Penobscot.

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

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §252-A, as amended by PL 1977, c. 696, §6, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§252-A. Display of United States and state flag

1. United States flag. The United States flag may be flown at half mast only at those times specified by the President of the United States or the Governor.

A United States flag, except a flag having historical significance, when being displayed must be in good condition at all times and not tattered, torn or discolored.

Flying the United States flag in any manner in violation of the United States Flag Code or in violation of this subsection is a Class E crime.

2. Display of state flag. The state flag may be flown at half mast only at those times specified by the Governor, the county commissioners, the governing body of a municipality or the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission. The state flag must be flown at half mast whenever the United States flag is flown at half mast or when ordered by the Governor. The county commissioners, the governing body of a municipality or the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission may authorize the lowering of the flag to half mast only in the area over which the county commissioners, the governing body or the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission has authority.

SUMMARY

This bill amends the Uniform Flag Law to allow the Governor, the county commissioners, the governing body of a municipality and the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission to authorize the flying of the state flag at half mast in those areas over which those entities have authority.