

HCS HB 1478 -- FLAG DISPLAY

SPONSOR: Jackson (Johnson, 90)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Veterans by a vote of 11 to 0.

This substitute requires the Veterans Commission to notify the Office of the Governor after receiving documentation that a Missouri resident has been killed while on active duty or from injuries sustained while on active duty. The Governor will then issue a proclamation directing all state agencies and political subdivisions to fly the United States flag and Missouri state flag at half-staff the next day, in honor of the person's service to this country.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill gives the Governor the authority needed to direct state agencies and other political subdivisions to lower the flag to half-staff in honor of Missouri residents who die while on active duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Hopefully, when the flags are lowered to half-staff, it will encourage people to pause and recognize the sacrifices made by our troops.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Johnson (90); and Pat Kerr, Support Your Troops.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Alice Hurley, Legislative Analyst