

HCS HB 1783 -- FLAGS FLOWN OVER STATE BUILDINGS

SPONSOR: Day (Meadows)

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

This substitute requires the Governor to issue an executive order that the United States and Missouri flags be flown at half-staff over state government buildings when any member of the Missouri National Guard or any Missouri resident in the United States military dies while serving on active duty during a declared war or conflict. The date of the honoring will be determined by the Governor.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this is a small token of our gratitude for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Currently, the Governor may issue an executive order to fly the flags at half-staff to honor our fallen heroes, the bill will require it.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Meadows; Rich Heigert, Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations and American Legion, Department of Missouri; Dewey Reihn, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Missouri Department; Missouri Veterans Commission; and Missouri National Guard Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.