

HCS HB 817 -- DISPLAY OF THE POW/MIA FLAG

SPONSOR: Henderson

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Veterans by a vote of 11 to 0.

This bill requires all state buildings and state parks to fly the POW/MIA flag along with the United States flag and the Missouri flag. If a state building or state park does not possess a POW/MIA flag, a flag must be requested from a local veterans organization. If a donated flag is unavailable or if displaying the flag under any circumstance would be inconsistent with the state policy for display of national and state flags the state building or state park must be exempt from the provisions of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the POW/MIA flag is a reminder of those who have not returned from war. This bill is an inexpensive and easy way for the state to show our appreciation for those who fought for our freedom and remind citizens that we cannot forget our service members who are prisoners of war or missing in action.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Henderson; Dewey Riehn, VFW; and Dennis Sweet, VFW of Missouri.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.