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Gunther  
4/16/24

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 174(CRA)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered:  
Referred:

Sponsor(s): SENATOR BJORKMAN

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

**"An Act relating to the Honor and Remember Flag and the Honor and Sacrifice Flag."**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

**\* Section 1.** AS 44.09 is amended by adding new sections to read:

**Sec. 44.09.097. Honor and Remember Flag.** (a) The Honor and Remember Flag is designated as an official symbol of the state for the purpose of recognizing and honoring members of the armed forces of the United States who have died in the line of duty and their families.

(b) The design of the Honor and Remember Flag is a red field signifying the blood spilled by brave men and women who sacrificed their lives for freedom, a blue star symbolizing active service in military conflict, a white border representing the purity of sacrifice, a gold star signifying the ultimate sacrifice of a warrior in active service who is not returning home and reflecting the value of a life given, a folded flag element signifying the final tribute to a fallen member of the armed forces and highlighting a family's sacrifice, and a flame signifying the eternal spirit of the departed.

(c) The Honor and Remember Flag may be displayed at the locations listed in (d) of this section on any day, including

- (1) the third Saturday in May, known as Armed Forces Day;
  - (2) the last Monday in May, known as Memorial Day;
  - (3) the Friday immediately preceding Memorial Day, known as Alaska Veterans' Poppy Day;
  - (4) the 14th of June, known as Flag Day;
  - (5) the fourth of July, known as Independence Day;
  - (6) the third Friday in September, known as National POW/MIA Recognition Day;
  - (7) the last Sunday in September, known as Gold Star Mother's Day;
- and
- (8) the 11th of November, known as Veterans Day.

(d) The Honor and Remember Flag may be displayed at the following locations on the days listed under (c) of this section:

- (1) the state capitol;
- (2) a court facility; in this paragraph, "court facility" has the meaning given in AS 22.05.025(b);
- (3) the main municipal office location of each municipality;
- (4) memorials to Alaska veterans constructed under AS 44.35.030; and
- (5) Alaska veterans' cemeteries established and maintained under AS 44.35.035.

(e) An employee of the state or a municipality may not be required to report to work solely for the purpose of displaying the Honor and Remember Flag.

(f) The commissioner of administration may adopt regulations to implement this section.

**Sec. 44.09.099. Honor and Sacrifice Flag.** (a) The Honor and Sacrifice Flag is designated as an official symbol of the state for the purpose of recognizing and honoring the selfless service and individual sacrifice of firefighters and law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty and their families.

(b) The design of the Honor and Sacrifice Flag is a blue field symbolizing the

national law enforcement community; a purple field signifying mourning the loss of a firefighter; a white field symbolizing the purity of heart within individuals who serve, protect, and are willing to face the challenges of each day regardless of risk; a black star representing the individuals who wear the distinctive badge, including sheriffs and members of the United States Marshal Service; a red Maltese cross recognizing the individuals who have fallen while serving in emergency response communities; a gold shield symbolizing the value of life given and recognizing all law enforcement officers and other public safety representatives who wear a shield, including emergency medical technicians, and who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty; a folded flag element signifying the final tribute to an individual fallen for the sake of others and highlighting a family's sacrifice; and a flame signifying an eternal reminder of the spirit that has departed this life yet burns on in the memory of all who knew and loved the fallen hero.

(c) The Honor and Sacrifice Flag may be displayed at the locations listed in (d) of this section on any day, including

- (1) the ninth of January, known as National Law Enforcement Day;
- (2) the fourth of May, known as International Firefighters Day;
- (3) the 15th of May, known as Peace Officers Memorial Day;
- (4) the 14th of June, known as Flag Day;
- (5) the fourth of July, known as Independence Day; and
- (6) the 11th of September, known as National Day of Service and Remembrance.

(d) The Honor and Sacrifice Flag may be displayed at the following locations on the days listed under (c) of this section:

- (1) the state capitol;
- (2) a court facility; in this paragraph, "court facility" has the meaning given in AS 22.05.025(b);
- (3) each office of the Department of Public Safety, each state trooper headquarters and station established under AS 18.65.030, and the Public Safety Training Academy for state troopers;
- (4) the main municipal office location of each municipality; and

1 (5) memorials to state firefighters or law enforcement.

2 (e) An employee of the state or a municipality may not be required to report to  
3 work solely for the purpose of displaying the Honor and Sacrifice Flag.

4 (f) The commissioner of administration may adopt regulations to implement  
5 this section.

6 \* **Sec. 2.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
7 read:

8 **CONDITIONAL EFFECT.** AS 44.09.097(c)(3), enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, takes  
9 effect only if SB 159 or a similar bill establishing Alaska Veterans' Poppy Day is passed by  
10 the Thirty-Third Alaska State Legislature and enacted into law.