

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FLAGS.

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

1           SECTION 1.   Since the American Revolution, more than five  
2 hundred thousand Americans have been captured and interned as  
3 prisoners of war.   The largest number of prisoners held captive  
4 occurred during the Civil War when an estimated two hundred and  
5 twenty thousand confederate soldiers were captured by the North  
6 and nearly one hundred and twenty-seven thousand union soldiers  
7 were interned by the South.

8           Since World War I, over one hundred and forty-two thousand  
9 Americans, including eighty-five women, have been captured and  
10 interned as prisoners of war.   Not included in this figure are  
11 nearly ninety-three thousand Americans who are classified as  
12 missing in action.

13           As our country seeks out Al Qaeda terrorists in the Middle  
14 East, it is important to recognize and honor the extraordinary  
15 heroism of the brave men and women who risked or sacrificed  
16 their lives or their freedom in the past, as well those who  
17 place their lives in harm's way on a daily basis in Afghanistan  
18 and Iraq.



1 The purpose of this Act is to allow the National League of  
2 Families' prisoner of war/missing in action flag to be flown  
3 with the United States and Hawaiian flags at State buildings on  
4 specified days to honor American prisoners of war and military  
5 personnel who are missing in action.

6 SECTION 2. Chapter 5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
7 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to  
8 read as follows:

9 "§5- Prisoner of war/missing in action flag;  
10 recognition; use. (a) The State recognizes the National League  
11 of Families' Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Flag that was  
12 recognized by the United States Congress through Pub. L. 101-355  
13 on August 10, 1990.

14 (b) If a building is under the jurisdiction of the State,  
15 including the state department of defense state headquarters  
16 building, and the Hawaiian flag is flown on the same or a  
17 separate halyard as the flag of the United States of America,  
18 the prisoner of war/missing in action flag may be flown under  
19 the flag of the United States of America on the following days:

- 20 (1) Armed Forces Day, the third Saturday in May;
- 21 (2) Memorial Day, the last Monday in May;
- 22 (3) Flag Day, June 14;



- 1        (4) Independence Day, July 4;
- 2        (5) National POW/MIA Recognition Day, the third Friday in
- 3                September; and
- 4        (6) Veterans Day, November 11.
- 5        (c) This section shall not apply:
- 6                (1) To public schools under chapter 302A; and
- 7                (2) Halyards that do not fly any flags due to safety or
- 8                community concerns."
- 9        SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
- 10       SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



**Report Title:**

Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Flag

**Description:**

Recognizes and allows the prisoner of war/missing in action flag to be flown with the U.S. and Hawaiian flags on specified days.  
(HB2383 HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

