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H.B. 123
135th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. J. Miller and A. Miller

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SUMMARY

- Designates the Honor and Remember Flag to honor and remember members of the U.S. armed forces who lost their lives for their service, and their families.
- Encourages the display of the Honor and Remember Flag during normal business hours at public buildings in Ohio, and at any location during a military memorial service.
- Allows the Statehouse to display the Honor and Remember Flag on Memorial Day.
- Specifies guidelines for the placement and size of the Honor and Remember Flag in relation to the U.S. flag and other flags when these flags are displayed simultaneously.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Designation of the Honor and Remember Flag

The bill designates the Honor and Remember Flag as a symbol to honor and remember members of the U.S. armed forces who lost their lives in the line of duty, and to honor and remember their families.

The bill specifies the flag's red field represents the blood shed by brave men and women who sacrificed their lives for freedom; the flag's white field and border recognize the purity of that sacrifice; the flag's blue star is a symbol of active service in military conflict that dates back to World War I; the flag's gold star signifies the ultimate sacrifice of a warrior in active service who is not returning home and reflects the value of the life given; the flag's folded flag element

highlights America's final tribute to a fallen service member and a family's sacrifice; and the flag's flame symbolizes the eternal spirit of the departed. The flag's design is depicted below:¹



Display of the Honor and Remember Flag

The bill encourages the display of the Honor and Remember Flag during normal business hours at public buildings in Ohio, and at any location during a military memorial service.²

The Statehouse in Columbus may display the Honor and Remember Flag on Memorial Day.³ The Statehouse may commence the display of the flag during normal business hours on a workday before Memorial Day, and end the display during normal business hours on a workday following Memorial Day.⁴

Standard of flag display

Under federal law, the U.S. flag must always be to the flag's own right of other flags, if flags are displayed from adjacent staffs.⁵ Under the bill, the Honor and Remember Flag must fly below, and be not larger than, a U.S. flag displayed from the same halyard or staff. The Honor and Remember Flag must fly below all other flags, if three or more flags are displayed from the same halyard or staff.⁶

¹ See [Honor and Remember Flag](#), which is available on: usflags.com; see also [Honor and Remember](#), which is available on: honorandremember.org. R.C. 9.51(A).

² R.C. 9.51(B).

³ R.C. 9.51(C).

⁴ R.C. 9.51(D).

⁵ 4 United States Code 7(f).

⁶ R.C. 9.51(E).

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	03-21-23
