

HOUSE No. 3305

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul McMurtry

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to recognition of the "Honor and Remember" Flag in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>
<i>Michael F. Rush</i>	<i>Norfolk and Suffolk</i>
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Bruce J. Ayers</i>	<i>1st Norfolk</i>
<i>Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.</i>	<i>5th Worcester</i>
<i>Thomas J. Calter</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>
<i>Geoff Diehl</i>	<i>7th Plymouth</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kate Hogan</i>	<i>3rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.</i>	<i>28th Middlesex</i>
<i>James R. Miceli</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>
<i>Shaunna L. O'Connell</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>
<i>Jerald A. Parisella</i>	<i>6th Essex</i>
<i>Thomas M. Petrolati</i>	<i>7th Hampden</i>
<i>Dennis A. Rosa</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>

<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>7th Norfolk</i>
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>
<i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 3305

By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3305) of Paul McMurtry and others that the Honor and Remember Flag be designated as the symbol of the Commonwealth’s concern and commitment to honoring and remembering the lives of all members of the United States Armed Forces who have lost their lives while serving. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act relative to recognition of the "Honor and Remember" Flag in the Commonwealth.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 2 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following
2 section:-

3 Section 62. (a) The Honor and Remember Flag created by Honor and Remember, Inc.
4 shall be designated as the symbol of the commonwealth’s concern and commitment to honoring
5 and remembering the lives of all members of the United States Armed Forces who have lost their
6 lives while serving, or as a result of service, and their families. The Honor and Remember Flag’s
7 red field shall represent the blood shed by brave men and women who sacrificed their lives for
8 freedom; the Flag’s white field and border shall recognize the purity of that sacrifice; the Flag’s
9 blue star shall be a symbol of the active service in military conflicts that dates back to World
10 War I; the Flag’s gold star shall signify the ultimate sacrifice of a warrior in active service who
11 will not return home and shall reflect the value of the life given; the folded Flag shall highlight

12 this nation's final tribute to a fallen service member and a family's sacrifice; and the Flag's
13 flame shall symbolize the eternal spirit of the departed. The Flag shall be a unifying symbol
14 recognizing this nation's solemn debt to the estimated 1.6 million fallen service members
15 throughout history and the families and communities who mourn their loss.

16 (b) The Honor and Remember Flag shall be displayed at the locations specified in
17 subsection (c) on the following days:

18 (1) Armed Forces Day, the third Saturday in May;

19 (2) Memorial Day, the last Monday in May;

20 (3) Flag Day, June 14;

21 (4) The Fourth of July;

22 (5) National POW/MIA Recognition Day;

23 (6) Veterans Day, November 11;

24 (7) Gold Star Mother's Day, the last Sunday of September; and

25 (8) Whenever there is a military casualty in the commonwealth.

26 The Honor and Remember Flag may also be displayed at all military memorials and
27 veteran's cemeteries in the commonwealth, and on any day on which the flag of the United
28 States is displayed.

29 (c) On the days listed in subsection (c), the Honor and Remember Flag shall be displayed
30 at the State House, each superior court, and each city and town hall. The display shall be in a
31 manner which ensures the Flag's visibility to the public.

32 (d) This section shall not be construed so as to require any employee to report to work
33 solely for the purpose of providing for the display of the Honor and Remember Flag.

34 SECTION 2. The state secretary, the court administrator of the trial court, the mayor of
35 each city and the board of selectman, or equivalent officers, of each town shall: (1) procure
36 Honor and Remember Flags within 30 days of the effective date of this act; and (2) promulgate
37 rules, regulations, or guidance as necessary to carry out the requirements of this act.