

HOUSE No. 2970

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Todd M. Smola

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 providing the next of kin of a state police officer killed in the line of duty with a flag during the memorial service.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 2970

By Representative Smola of Warren, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2970) of Todd M. Smola for legislation to provide the next of kin of state police officers killed in the line of duty with a flag during memorial services. Public Service.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2664 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to providing the next of kin of a state police officer killed in the line of duty with a flag during the memorial service.

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 89 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

3 "If an officer of the department of state police is killed, or dies from injuries received or
4 dies as a natural and proximate result of undergoing a hazard peculiar to the officer's
5 employment, while in the performance of the officer's duty, the officer's next of kin shall receive
6 from the department a flag of the commonwealth during the memorial service. For purposes of
7 this paragraph, next of kin shall mean a person who is a surviving spouse, partner, parent or close
8 family member of the deceased."