

SENATE, No. 1497

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 16, 2016

Sponsored by:

Senator ANTHONY R. BUCCO

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

Senator JOSEPH PENNACCHIO

District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Assemblyman RONALD S. DANCER

District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

Assemblyman ROBERT D. CLIFTON

District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

Assemblywoman NANCY F. MUNOZ

District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)

Assemblyman ANTHONY M. BUCCO

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Senators Thompson, Beck, Assemblyman Space, Assemblywoman
Phoebus, Assemblymen O'Scanlon, S.Kean, C.A.Brown and DeAngelo**

SYNOPSIS

Designates Killed in Action flag as an official State flag; mandates it be displayed at certain public buildings.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/23/2017)

1 AN ACT designating the Killed in Action flag as an official State
2 flag and supplementing chapter 3 of Title 52 of the Revised
3 Statutes.

4
5 WHEREAS, Since our nation's founding, brave men and women have
6 given their lives for this country through their service in the Armed
7 Forces of the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, This State supports its many resident servicemembers and
9 veterans and is grateful for their sacrifices, especially for the
10 sacrifice of those who paid the ultimate price with their lives; and

11 WHEREAS, The Killed in Action (K.I.A.) flag seeks to honor those
12 who have fallen in action and ensure that their service is never
13 forgotten; and

14 WHEREAS, It is believed that, in 1993, a Vietnam veteran, who wished
15 to remain anonymous, visited the Vietnam War Memorial in
16 Washington, D.C., and realized there was no flag in existence at
17 that time that he could leave to honor this nation's fallen heroes;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, The veteran decided to create a flag and assure the loved
20 ones of fallen heroes that they would always be remembered; and

21 WHEREAS, The Killed in Action Honor Flag Program began in 2003
22 in recognition of those who were killed in combat while serving in
23 the United States military and their families; and

24 WHEREAS, The K.I.A. flag is a red flag which depicts the silhouette of
25 a helmet on top of a firearm next to a servicemember, where the
26 color red represents the blood shed by members of the United States
27 Armed Forces and Special Services who made the ultimate sacrifice
28 for this country both at home and abroad; and

29 WHEREAS, It is, therefore, altogether fitting and proper that this State
30 adopt this flag as an official State flag to honor and memorialize all
31 members of the Armed Forces of the United States who were killed
32 in action or died of wounds resulting from injuries received in
33 action; now, therefore,

34
35 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
36 of New Jersey:

37
38 1. a. The Killed in Action (K.I.A.) flag is designated an
39 official State flag for recognizing members of the Armed Forces of
40 the United States who were killed in action, or died of wounds
41 resulting from injuries received in action, in any war or conflict in
42 which the United States has been involved. The K.I.A. flag is a red
43 flag which depicts the silhouette of a helmet on top of a firearm
44 next to a servicemember.

45 b. The flag shall be displayed during normal business hours at
46 the State House in Trenton, the principal municipal building in each
47 municipality, and the principal county building in each county seat.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6 This bill designates the Killed in Action (K.I.A.) flag as an
7 official State flag for recognizing all members of the Armed Forces
8 of the United States who were killed in action, or died of wounds
9 resulting from injuries received in action, in any war or conflict in
10 which the United States has been involved. The bill mandates that
11 the flag be displayed during normal business hours at the State
12 House in Trenton, the principal municipal building in each
13 municipality, and the principal county building in each county seat.