~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

AMENDED

May 1, 2013

**S. 237**

Introduced by Senators Shealy, Setzler, Courson, Turner, Cromer, Massey, Young and Alexander

S. Printed 5/1/13--H.

Read the first time March 20, 2013.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 10‑1‑161 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO STATE CAPITOL BUILDING FLAGS FLOWN AT HALF‑STAFF, TO PROVIDE THAT FLAGS ATOP THE STATE CAPITOL BUILDING MUST BE LOWERED TO HALF‑STAFF FOR MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY SERVICES, WHO WERE RESIDENTS OF THIS STATE AND WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE LINE OF DUTY, ON THE DAY WHEN THEIR NAMES ARE RELEASED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, AND THE FLAGS SHALL REMAIN AT HALF‑STAFF UNTIL AT LEAST DAWN THE SECOND DAY AFTER FUNERAL SERVICES ARE CONDUCTED.

Amend Title To Conform

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 10‑1‑161 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 10‑1‑161. (A) On Memorial Day the flags, which are flown atop the State Capitol Building, must be displayed at half‑staff until noon, then raised to the top of the staff.

(B) To honor and pay tribute to the following public officials and individuals, the flags which are flown atop the State Capitol Building must be lowered to half‑staff on the day on which funeral services are conducted for these public officials and individuals:

(1) current and past members of the United States Congress from the State of South Carolina;

(2) current constitutional officers of the State of South Carolina;

(3) former Governors and Lieutenant Governors of the State of South Carolina;

(4) current members of the South Carolina General Assembly;

(5) current members of the South Carolina Supreme Court; ~~and~~

(6) current and former Presidents of the United States; and

(7) members of the United States military services who were residents of South Carolina and who lost their lives in the line of duty while in combat.

(C) As contained in this section, ‘half‑staff’ means the position of the flag when it is one‑half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff.

(D) ~~In addition to the public officials enumerated in subsection (B), flags atop the State Capitol Building must be lowered to half‑staff on the day when funeral services are conducted for members of the United States military services who were residents of South Carolina and who lost their lives in the line of duty while in combat.~~

~~(E)~~ The flags atop the State Capitol Building must be flown at half‑staff for a period of thirty days from the date of death of the President or a former President; for a period of ten days from the date of death of the Vice President, the Chief Justice, or a retired Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, or the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; for a period of five days before the day of the South Carolina funeral through the date of interment for members of the United States military services who were residents of South Carolina and who lost their lives in the line of duty while in combat, beginning with the day the Division of Veterans’ Affairs notifies the Office of the Governor of the funeral and from the date of death through the date of interment of an associate justice of the United States Supreme Court, or a secretary of a federal executive or military department, or a former Vice President.

~~(F)~~(E) Upon the occurrence of an extraordinary event resulting in death or upon the death of a person of extraordinary stature, the Governor may order that the flags atop the State Capitol Building be lowered to half‑staff at a designated time or for a designated period of time.

~~(G)~~(F) The Governor may order the flags atop the State Capitol Building to be lowered to half‑staff for the same designated time when an act of the United States Congress or a presidential order is issued to lower flags to half‑staff over federal buildings.

~~(H)~~(G) The flags atop the State Capitol Building, when flown at half‑staff must first be hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half‑staff position. The flags must be again raised to the peak before they are lowered for the day.

(H)(1) On any day where flags atop the State Capitol Building are flown at half‑staff to honor and pay tribute to more than one individual listed in subsections (B) or (D), the flags must be hoisted and lowered pursuant to subsection (G) as many times as there are individuals to honor and pay tribute to that day.

(2) On any day where flags atop the State Capitol Building are flown at half‑staff, the Governor shall, on a conspicuous place on the website maintained by the Governor, identify the person or persons to which such honor and tribute is being paid until the day of the funeral.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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