

Union Calendar No. 72

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1892

[Report No. 115-119]

To amend title 4, United States Code, to provide for the flying of the flag at half-staff in the event of the death of a first responder in the line of duty.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 4, 2017

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. WALZ, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. ESTY, and Mr. GRIJALVA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

MAY 15, 2017

Additional sponsors: Mr. COHEN, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. RENACCI, and Mr. MESSER

MAY 15, 2017

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To amend title 4, United States Code, to provide for the flying of the flag at half-staff in the event of the death of a first responder in the line of duty.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Honoring Hometown
5 Heroes Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PERMITTING THE FLAG TO BE FLOWN AT HALF-**
7 **STAFF IN THE EVENT OF THE DEATH OF A**
8 **FIRST RESPONDER SERVING IN THE LINE OF**
9 **DUTY.**

10 (a) AMENDMENT.—The sixth sentence of section
11 7(m) of title 4, United States Code, is amended—

12 (1) by striking “or” after “possession of the
13 United States” and inserting a comma;

14 (2) by inserting “or the death of a first re-
15 sponder working in any State, territory, or posses-
16 sion who dies while serving in the line of duty,”
17 after “while serving on active duty,”;

18 (3) by striking “and” after “former officials of
19 the District of Columbia” and inserting a comma;
20 and

21 (4) by inserting before the period the following:
22 “, and first responders working in the District of
23 Columbia”.

24 (b) FIRST RESPONDER DEFINED.—Such subsection
25 is further amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “, United
2 States Code; and” and inserting a semicolon;

3 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at
4 the end and inserting “; and”; and

5 (3) by adding at the end the following new
6 paragraph:

7 “(4) the term ‘first responder’ means a ‘public
8 safety officer’ as defined in section 1204 of the Om-
9 nibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968
10 (42 U.S.C. 3796b).”.

11 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
12 this Act shall apply with respect to deaths of first respond-
13 ers occurring on or after the date of the enactment of this
14 Act.

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