

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** No fiscal impact

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**Action:** Be Adopted

**Vote:** 4 - 0 - 0

**Yeas:** Monnes Anderson, Olsen, President Courtney, Boquist

**Nays:** 0

**Exc.:** 0

**Prepared By:** Lori Brocker, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 2/16, 2/23

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Urges Congress to adopt Veterans Remembered Flag.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Meaning of flag components
- States that recognize flag

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** More than 20 million Americans are veterans. While the number of veterans grows as Armed Forces personnel return from Iraq and Afghanistan, many veterans of earlier wars are at the end of their natural lives. Of the 16 million Americans involved in World War II, around 2 million are alive today, and it is estimated that by 2016 around 600,000 will still be living.

James Parks, a veteran of World War II and Honorary Chairman of the Sonoma Veterans Memorial Association, recognized that many deceased veterans are not buried in military cemeteries and, consequently, may not be honored for their service to the country in a visible way. Mr. Parks and other advocates believe the Veterans Remembered Flag, which could be placed in private cemeteries, is the most economical and recognizable way to honor veterans of all wars, living and deceased.

Currently, eleven states recognize the Veterans Remembered Flag, including Washington, California, and Idaho. The flag is also recognized by the United States Navy Memorial Foundation and a number of posts in the American Legion.