

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To provide Capitol-flown flags to the immediate family of firefighters, law enforcement officers, members of rescue squads or ambulance crews, and public safety officers who are killed in the line of duty.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. UDALL, Ms. AYOTTE, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. ROBERTS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BURR, Mr. HELLER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. KING) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To provide Capitol-flown flags to the immediate family of firefighters, law enforcement officers, members of rescue squads or ambulance crews, and public safety officers who are killed 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 “Fallen Heroes Flag
5 Act of 2016”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act—

3 (1) the term “Capitol-flown flag” means a flag
4 of the United States flown over the Capitol in honor
5 of the deceased individual for whom the flag is re-
6 quested;

7 (2) the terms “chaplain”, “firefighter”, “law
8 enforcement officer”, “member of a rescue squad or
9 ambulance crew”, and “public agency” have the
10 meanings given such terms in section 1204 of the
11 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of
12 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796b);

13 (3) the term “immediate family member”, with
14 respect to an individual, means—

15 (A) the spouse, parent, brother, sister, or
16 child of the individual or a person to whom the
17 individual stands in loco parentis; or

18 (B) any other person related to the indi-
19 vidual by blood or marriage;

20 (4) the term “public safety officer” means an
21 individual serving a public agency in an official ca-
22 pacity, with or without compensation, as a law en-
23 forcement officer, as a firefighter, or as a chaplain;
24 and

25 (5) the term “Representative” includes a Dele-
26 gate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress.

1 **SEC. 3. PROVIDING CAPITOL-FLOWN FLAGS FOR FAMILIES**
2 **OF FALLEN HEROES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—At the request of an immediate
4 family member of a firefighter, law enforcement officer,
5 member of a rescue squad or ambulance crew, or public
6 safety officer who died in the line of duty, the Representa-
7 tive or Senator of the family may provide to the family
8 a Capitol-flown flag, together with the certificate described
9 in subsection (c).

10 (b) NO COST TO FAMILY.—A Capitol-flown flag pro-
11 vided under this section shall be provided at no cost to
12 the family.

13 (c) CERTIFICATE.—The certificate described in this
14 subsection is a certificate which is signed by the Speaker
15 of the House of Representatives and the Representative,
16 or the President pro Tempore of the Senate and the Sen-
17 ator, providing the Capitol-flown flag, as applicable, and
18 which contains an expression of sympathy for the family
19 involved from the House of Representatives or the Senate,
20 as applicable.

21 **SEC. 4. REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the
23 date of enactment of this Act, the Architect of the Capitol
24 shall issue regulations for carrying out this Act, including
25 regulations to establish procedures (including any appro-

1 priate forms, guidelines, and accompanying certificates)
2 for requesting a Capitol-flown flag.

3 (b) REVIEW.—The regulations issued under sub-
4 section (a) shall take effect upon approval by the Com-
5 mittee on House Administration of the House of Rep-
6 resentatives and the Committee on Rules and Administra-
7 tion of the Senate.

8 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9 There are authorized to be appropriated for each of
10 fiscal years 2017 through 2022 such sums as may be nec-
11 essary to carry out this Act, to be derived from amounts
12 appropriated in each such fiscal year for the operation of
13 the Architect of the Capitol, except that the aggregate
14 amount appropriated to carry out this Act for all such fis-
15 cal years may not exceed \$40,000.

16 **SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

17 This Act shall take effect on the date of enactment
18 of this Act, except that a Capitol-flown flag may not be
19 provided under section 3 until the regulations issued under
20 section 4(a) take effect in accordance with section 4(b).