

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3653**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Sean Garballey***

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

**An Act relative to half-staff notifications.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2021</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3653**

By Mr. Garballey of Arlington, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3653) of Sean Garballey relative to flying the flag of the Commonwealth at half-staff to honor service members killed while on active duty. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**

An Act relative to half-staff notifications.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Section 6A of Chapter 2 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 official edition is  
2 hereby amended by adding at the end the following paragraph:-

3 (h) All military service members (Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy,  
4 National Guard, Reserves, Space Force) residing in Massachusetts, and performing military duty  
5 under official orders, who are killed while in an active duty status, will be honored by having  
6 flags throughout the Commonwealth flown at half-staff from the day of death until sunset of the  
7 day of interment in accordance with such orders or instructions as may be issued by, or at the  
8 direction of the governor. The remains of POWs/MIAs repatriated within the Commonwealth  
9 shall have the flag half-staffed on the day of arrival within the Commonwealth through the day  
10 of internment. Additionally, flags will be half-staffed each year on national POW/MIA Day,  
11 observed across the nation on the third Friday of September, from sunrise to sunset.