

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1018

An act relating to rest areas; directing the Department of Transportation to fly the POW-MIA flag and erect appropriate markers honoring POW's and MIA's; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, history has been shaped by the brave men and women in the United States Armed Forces who answered the call to America's highest duty, and

WHEREAS, while we honor our veterans for their strength, service, and sacrifice, it is equally important to remember those who are missing in action and remain unaccounted for, and

WHEREAS, there are still thousands of American military personnel whose whereabouts remain unknown, and

WHEREAS, families of these courageous patriots deserve to know that this state has not forgotten their outstanding contributions, and

WHEREAS, each year, people in this state and across the country join together in remembrance of these missing individuals and to reaffirm our commitment to account for all our POW's and MIA's, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. The Florida Department of Transportation shall fly the POW-MIA flag year round at each of the rest areas along interstate highways in this state.

Section 2. The Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the Department of Veterans' Affairs, shall display an appropriate marker or plaque at each rest area along interstate highways in this state recognizing the sacrifices of those servicemen and servicewomen still unaccounted for, and acknowledging the sacrifices of their families.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 20, 2000.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 20, 2000.