

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 198

An act relating to firefighters; providing for the creation of an official state Firefighter Memorial Flag; providing for the use of the flag; providing for the Division of State Fire Marshal of the Department of Financial Services to provide for the creation and distribution of the flag; providing for the adoption of rules; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. The Division of State Fire Marshal of the Department of Financial Services shall design, produce, and implement the creation and distribution of an official state Firefighter Memorial Flag to honor firefighters who have died in the line of duty.

(1) The flag may be displayed at memorial or funeral services of firefighters who have died in the line of duty, at firefighter memorials, at fire stations, at the Fallen Firefighter Memorial located at the Florida State Fire College in Ocala, by the families of fallen firefighters, and at any other location designated by the State Fire Marshal.

(2) The flag shall have a blue background, with a black horizontal stripe across the middle of the flag and a horizontal purple stripe above and below the black stripe. It shall also contain a red Maltese Cross or Cross of St. Florian in the center of the flag surrounding the Great Seal of the State of Florida, and the phrase "Florida Fallen Firefighters" in gold capital letters shall be placed at the top of the flag and the phrase "Memorial Flag" shall be placed at the bottom of the flag. Each arm of the cross shall contain one of the words "Courage," "Honor," "Sacrifice," and "Valor."

(3) The Department of Financial Services may adopt rules relating to the production and distribution of the flag.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.

Approved by the Governor May 27, 2009.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 27, 2009.