



Senate Fiscal Agency
P. O. Box 30036
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536



BILL ANALYSIS

Telephone: (517) 373-5383
Fax: (517) 373-1986
TDD: (517) 373-0543

Senate Bill 1149 (as enrolled)
Sponsor: Senator Valde Garcia
Senate Committee: Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs
House Committee: Government Operations

PUBLIC ACT 402 of 2004

Date Completed: 1-25-05

RATIONALE

To honor the heritage of the nation's armed forces and the men and women who served in each branch, some people felt that the State should designate in statute a particular date to commemorate the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard. It was suggested that the anniversary of the founding of each branch be identified as its commemoration date and that the flag of each branch be flown at the State Capitol on the appropriate date.

Fiscal Agency. The Senate Fiscal Agency neither supports nor opposes legislation.)

Supporting Argument

Designating the founding date of each branch of the U.S. armed forces as its commemoration date and flying the flag of the appropriate branch over the State Capitol on that date will be an easy, yet publicly visible way for the State and its citizens to honor the heritage of the U.S. Army, Coast Guard, Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps and to express appreciation for the sacrifices of the men and women who are serving, or have served, in each branch of the armed forces.

In addition, according to testimony before the Senate Committee on Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is willing to purchase the flags for use at the State Capitol, so there will be no cost to the State.

Legislative Analyst: Patrick Affholter

CONTENT

The bill created the "Armed Forces Commemoration Act" to recognize the men and women who served in the United States armed forces, specifically the U.S. Army, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Marines, the U.S. Air Force, and the U.S. Coast Guard. The flags of each branch must be flown over the State Capitol building in Lansing annually on the commemoration date for each branch.

The commemoration dates include the following:

- The U.S. Army on June 14.
- The U.S. Coast Guard on August 14.
- The U.S. Air Force on September 18.
- The U.S. Navy on October 13.
- The U.S. Marine Corps on November 10.

The bill took effect on November 15, 2004.

MCL 435.341-435.343

ARGUMENTS

(Please note: The arguments contained in this analysis originate from sources outside the Senate

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill will have no fiscal impact on the State or local government.

Fiscal Analyst: Bruce Baker

[A0304\s1149ea](#)

This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.