# Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States



12440 N E. HALSEY • PORTLAND, OREGON 97230-1927 TELEPHONE: (503) 255-5808

**RESOLUTION:** 

WHEREAS: the 101<sup>st</sup> Congress passed U.S. Public Law 101-355, recognizing the National League of Families POW/MIA Flag and designating it as a symbol of our Nation's concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner of war, missing and unaccounted for.

WHEREAS: with the passage of Section 1082 of the 1998 Defense Authorization Act during the first term of the 105<sup>th</sup> Congress, the POW/MIA Flag was specified to fly on six holidays each year on Military installations, National Cemeteries, the White House, United States Post Offices and other Federal properties.

WHEREAS: ORS 187.220 specifies that the POW/MIA Flag will be flown upon or near the principal building of public bodies on the six specified days each year.

WHEREAS: our fellow comrades are POWs or MIAs365 days a year, not just six days a year.

WHEREAS: there are 98 US Military personnel from Oregon listed as Missing in Action

BE IT RESOLVED: by the Department of Oregon, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States that we call upon the Oregon State Legislature to pass a bill that will require the POW/MIA Flag be flown at the Oregon State Capitol 24 hours a day for 365 days a year.

Submitted by Crater Lake Post 1833

This resolution was passed by the Department of Oregon Convention on Friday June 6, 2014 by unanimous vote.

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Roger A. Ege Adjutant Department of Oregon

## UVGO

Air Force Sergeant's Association		
American Legion		
AMVETS	October 11, 2014	
Disabled American Veterans	MIA/POW Flag Legislation	
Korean War Veterans' Association	The United Veterans Groups of Oregon (UVGO) unanimously support the Legislation for the MIA/POW Flag to be flown at the State Capitol 365 days a year.	
Military Officer's Association of America		
Military Order of the Purple Heart	Sincerely,	
Parlyzed Veterans' of America	Wayne Harvey UVGO, Chairman	
The Retired Enlisted Association		
Veterans of Foreign Wars		
Vietnam Veterans of America		

# "In Service to Oregon Military Veterans"

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### Non Commissioned Officers Association State of Oregon

Whereas it is important for the State of Oregon to show leadership in respecting all past, present and future Prisoners of War and Missing in Action from the State of Oregon and;

Whereas the POW/MIA Flag is a nationally recognized symbol of that recognition and;

Whereas the 105<sup>th</sup> Congress as part of the 1998 National Defense Authorization that the POW/MIA Flag will be flown six (6) days a year at most federal facilities and;

Whereas most states have adopted a similar law (inclusive of Oregon) to fly the POW/MIA Flag six (6) days a year and;

Whereas anyone listed as Missing in Action is in that status 365(6) days a year and;

Whereas a total of 98 military personnel from the State of Oregon are officially designated as Missing in Action from World War 2 to present;

Therefore the Non Commissioned Officers Association from the State of Oregon respectfully request that a bill be passed by the Oregon Legislature to fly the POW/MIA Flag at the Oregon State Capitol 24/7 365(6) days a year.

Oregon State Council #1300

Rogue Chapter #1260

Jefferson State Chapter #1285

Umpqua Valley Chapter #1308

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Trailsend Auxiliary #238



#### NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES OF AMERICAN PRISONERS AND MISSING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA 5673 COLUMBIA PIKE, SUITE 100, FALLS CHURCH, VA 22041 -703/465-7432

www.pow-miafamilies.org

FAX ---703/465-7433

October 29, 2014

Mr. Hugh Crawford Oregon State VFW POW/MIA Flag Project 274 Summer Glen Way Central Point, OR 97502

#### Dear Mr. Crawford,

The National League of POW/MIA Families fully supports your efforts to introduce legislation to fly the POW/MIA Flag at the State Capitol. The POW/MIA flag/logo was developed for the League in 1970. Though never legally restricted by the League, it has been recognized as our flag through by successive Presidents and laws passed by Congress. For many years concerned Americans have debated whether the best course of action is to display the flag 24/7 or on the specifically designated dates as the best course of action to raise public awareness and responsible participation. Both are welcome, but the majority favors 24/7, on a lighted flagstaff directly under the US flag, especially for State Capitols. Flying the flag at the Oregon State Capitol will serve as a constant reminder that our nation's responsibility cannot end until the fullest accounting for missing US personnel, military and civilian, has been achieved.

The National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia was incorporated in the District of Columbia on May 28, 1970. The League's sole purpose is to obtain the release of all prisoners, the fullest possible accounting for the missing and repatriation of all recoverable remains of those who died serving our nation during the Vietnam War.

We are grateful for the unprecedented efforts ongoing, though admittedly with ups and downs, since priority was established by President Reagan in 1981. Had he not come into office with longstanding commitment, we would not today see over 600 personnel working full time to account for America's POW/MIAs and others killed in earlier wars and conflicts whose remains were not recovered and identified, though of course we also recognize that thousands were recovered, identified and buried is American cemeteries abroad, and their families were notified.

We recognize that accounting for all of the missing will never be possible and, as economic realities continue, we increasingly rely on the support of organizations and concerned citizens to help move the issue forward. Working together, we can and must ensure that the fullest possible accounting is achieved. That is precisely the message needed by those serving today in Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, and around the world. They must know that should they be captured or missing, we will be there for them.

Sincerely and best wishes

Ann Mills-Griffiths Chairman of the Board of Directors

"The Road To Victory Was Paved With Purple Hearts"

All Gave Some—Some Gave All DEPARTMENT OF OREGON THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART CHARLES UPTON COMMANDER



**ALL GAVE SOME** 

SOME GAVE ALL

Charles W. Upton 1776 Antelope Circle SW Albany, OR. 97321 March 14, 2014

Mr. Hugh Crawford 274 Summer Glen Way Central Point, Oregon 97502

The Department of Oregon Military Order of the Purple Heart strongly supports your and the VFW Post 1833 in Medford, Oregon, effort in sponsoring a bill in the State Legislature requiring that the POW/MIA Flag be flown at the State Capitol 365 day a year.

For those men and women who faced enormous hardships as a POW/MIA during times of war, being remembered for their sacrifices to this country is the ultimate honor and reward for their dedication and service to this nation

Yours in Patriotism

Charles W. Upton Department Commander 2013-2014

COMBAT WOUNDED VETERANS

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Marine Corps League Department of Oregon Department Conference

February 22, 2014

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The Oregon Marine Corps League has resolved to support the statewide effort to put forward a bill in the State Legislature requiring that the POW/MIA flag be flown at the state capitol 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

Should you have any questions, please contact Hugh Crawford, Project Manager for POW/MIA Flag, Oregon State Capitol, at phone number 541-664-8266, or <u>hecrawford@charter.net</u>.

Bob Gilmore, Department Commandant

Steve Price, Dept. Sr. Vice Commandant

Eric Chandler, Dept. Jr. Vice Commandant

Warren Griffin, Department Judge Advocate

/James Hale, Department Chaplain



February 24, 2014

Hugh Crawford, Project Manager Oregon State Capitol POW/MIA Flag

Sir:

The Rogue Valley Detachment of the Marine Corps League has resolved to support the statewide effort to put forward a bill in the State Legislature requiring that the POW/MIA flag be flown at the state capitol 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

Semper Fidelis,

Jim Reinhart, Commandant

Bert Plannette, Sr. Vice Commandant

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Jim Ashby, Jr. Vice Commandant

Loren Otto, Judge Advocate



DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS Building Better Lives for America's Disabled Veterans



**Jackson County Chapter 8** 

May 1, 2014

Hugh Crawford, Project Manager Oregon State Capitol POW/MIA Flag

Dear Sir:

The Jackson County Chapter 8 Disabled American Veterans has resolved to support the statewide effort to put forward a bill in the State Legislature requiring that the POW/MIA flag be flown at the state capitol 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

Regards, Nick Snyder, Commander

Ernest Cory

Ernest Cory, Vice Commander

Donald O'MEANA Donald O'Meara, Adjutant

Margaret L. LaFoya, Finance Officer gant J. La Joya



# **Air Force Sergeants Association**

November 11, 2014

Hugh Crawford Veterans of Foreign Wars 274 Summer Glen Way Central Point, OR 97502

The Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) Division 5 has granted authorization to AFSA Chapter 1451 Oregon to support the initiative to the State of Oregon Legislators to fly the POW/MIA Flag 365 days a year instead of just 6 days a year at the state capitol.

The total number of Oregon AFSA members is 665.

We feel that this is a great idea to remember our veterans who most likely will not return "home". Chapter 1451 is proud to support this initiative going forward. I hope our numbers will help you to reach your goal of 50,000 veterans.

Thank you,

Donald J. Schram, CMSgt (Ret) President, AFSA Chapter 1451 4664 SE Brae Street Milwaukie, OR 97222

### The following information is from the Department of Defense:

Prisoners of War:	Currently none known
Missing in Action:	

Total	83,342	
<b>Enduring Freedom</b>	1	
Iraqi Freedom	1	
Desert Storm	2	
Cold War	126	
Vietnam War	1645	
Korean War	7906	
World War II	73,661	
World War I	No Statistics Available	

#### **Oregon Missing in Action:**

World War II	Not Broken Down by States	
Korean War	60	
Vietnam	36	
Cold War	2	
Total	98	

### Veterans Groups Supporting the POW/MIA Flag Being Flown at the Oregon State Capitol 24/7, 365 Days a Year

Organization	Members
National League of POW/MIA Families	See Letter of Support
Non Commissioned Officers Association in Oregon	450
Marine Corps League in Oregon	640
United Veterans' Groups of Oregon (UVGO) including:	See Letter of Support
Air Force Sergeant's Association in Oregon	665
American Legion in Oregon	24,000
Disabled American Veterans in Oregon	8,630
Korean War Veterans' Association in Oregon	200
Military Officers' Association of America in Oregon	5,327
Military Order of the Purple Heart in Oregon	477
Paralyzed Veterans of America in Oregon	385
The Retired Enlisted Association in Oregon	150
Veterans of Foreign Wars in Oregon	15,521
Vietnam Veterans of America in Oregon	1,200
TOTAL	57,645

On behalf of other veterans supporting this bill and myself, "Thank you for your time and consideration."