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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 4806

03/11/2024 Authored by Olson, B.; Urdahl; Knudsen; Harder; Davids and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on State and Local Government Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to state government; recognizing the historic state flag; recognizing the
1.3 right of all persons to display the historic state flag; providing standards for its
1.4 display on state property; providing standards for its display on other public
1.5 property; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 1.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. [1.1415] HISTORIC STATE FLAG.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Description. The design of the historic state flag is recognized and shall
1.9 conform substantially to the following description: The staff is surmounted by a bronze
1.10 eagle with outspread wings; the flag is rectangular in shape and is on a medium blue
1.11 background with a narrow gold border and a golden fringe. A circular emblem is contained
1.12 in the center of the blue field. The circular emblem is on a general white background with
1.13 a yellow border. The word MINNESOTA is inscribed in red lettering on the lower part of
1.14 the white field. The white emblem background surrounding a center design contains 19
1.15 five-pointed stars arranged symmetrically in four groups of four stars each and one group
1.16 of three stars. The latter group is in the upper part of the center circular white emblem. The
1.17 group of stars at the top in the white emblem consists of three stars of which the uppermost
1.18 star is the largest and represents the North Star. A center design is contained on the white
1.19 emblem and is made up of scenes from the historic design of the Great Seal of the State of
1.20 Minnesota, as described in Laws 1983, chapter 119, section 1, surrounded by a border of
1.21 intertwining cypripedium reginae, the state flower, on a blue field of the same color as the
1.22 general flag background. The flower border design contains the figures 1819, 1858, and
1.23 1893. The coloring is the same on both sides of the flag, but the lettering and the figures
1.24 appear reversed on one side.

2.1 Subd. 2. **Right of citizens to use and display the historic state flag.** All persons maintain
2.2 the right to use and display the historic state flag upon any occasion deemed fitting and
2.3 appropriate.

2.4 Subd. 3. **Display of historic state flag on state property.** The lieutenant governor shall
2.5 establish standards and specifications for the manufacture and display of the historic state
2.6 flag. The historic state flag shall be displayed:

2.7 (1) on state property during holidays as described in section 645.44, subdivision 5, as
2.8 determined by the governor; and

2.9 (2) on the Capitol complex during the annual regular session of the legislature, and
2.10 during any special session.

2.11 Subd. 4. **Display of historic state flag on other public property.** (a) The historic state
2.12 flag may be displayed on any other public property for ceremonial purposes at any other
2.13 time, so long as the flag is serviceable.

2.14 (b) The historic state flag shall be replaced by the official flag, as described in section
2.15 1.141, when the historic state flag is not displayed on public property for ceremonial
2.16 purposes.

2.17 (c) When displaying the historic state flag on public property in any location where the
2.18 official flag is also displayed, the government entity responsible for the display of the flags
2.19 must ensure that the historic state flag is displayed beneath the official flag.

2.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective May 11, 2024.