

3 Senate Bill No. 712

4 SENATE BILL NO. 712 - By: Gumm, Bass, Burrage, Ivester, Russell and
5 Schulz of the Senate and Roan of the House.

6 An Act relating to definitions and general provisions;
7 stating legislative findings; designating first Monday of
8 each month as day of remembrance for those serving in war on
9 terror; authorizing and requesting flags be flown at half-
10 staff; specifying duty of Director of Department of Central
11 Services; providing for codification; providing an effective
12 date; and declaring an emergency.

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 90.19 of Title 25, unless there
16 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

17 A. The Legislature finds that:

18 1. The Congress of the United States has authorized the
19 President to use military force against "nations, organizations, or
20 persons the President determines planned, authorized, committed, or
21 aided the terrorist attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001, or
22 harbored such organizations or persons", Pub. L. 107-40, and has
23 further authorized the President to use military force in order to
24 "defend the national security of the United States against the
25 continuing threat posed by Iraq", Pub. L. 107-243;

26 2. Although these policies have resulted in some degree of
27 controversy, it is incontrovertible that the members of the Armed

1 Forces of the United States who have been deployed with respect
2 thereto have served with honor, dignity, and bravery, and that
3 public support for the members of the Armed Forces, and for their
4 families, has been steadfast and unwavering; and

5 3. For as long as members of the Armed Forces are so deployed,
6 such public support must continue and be demonstrated in every way
7 possible.

8 B. Until such time as such use of military force as referenced
9 in subsection A of this section is concluded, whether by
10 Presidential or congressional action, the Governor is directed to
11 order flags of the United States and the State of Oklahoma, on state
12 property, be flown at half-staff on the day of the memorial service
13 for any Oklahoman who lost his or her life while a member of the
14 Armed Forces of the United States.

15 C. On each such day of remembrance, all state agencies,
16 interested organizations, groups, and individuals are authorized and
17 requested to fly the flag of the United States at half-staff. The
18 Director of the Department of Central Services shall cause the
19 provisions of this section to be implemented by all appropriate
20 agencies of state government.

21 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2009.

22 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
23 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby

1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.
3 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON VETERANS & MILITARY AFFAIRS, dated
4 2-18-09 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.