

As Reported by the House State Government Committee

124th General Assembly

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Am. S. B. No. 240

**SENATORS Amstutz, Jordan, Mead, Harris, White, Randy Gardner, Austria,
Coughlin, Robert Gardner, Hottinger, Mumper, Spada, Wachtmann, Jacobson**

**REPRESENTATIVES Clancy, Flowers, Young, Buehrer, Cates, Peterson,
Trakas, Carmichael, Sykes, Patton, Oakar, Wilson**

A B I L L

To amend section 5.01 and to enact sections 5.012 and 1
5.013 of the Revised Code to establish requirements 2
governing the display and disposal of the state 3
flag, to explain the symbolism of the state flag, 4
and to adopt an official pledge to the state flag. 5

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 5.01 be amended and sections 5.012 6
and 5.013 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 7

Sec. 5.01. The flag of the state shall be ~~pennant-shaped~~ 8
burgee-shaped. It shall have three red and two white horizontal 9
stripes that represent the roads and waterways of the state. The 10
union of the flag shall be seventeen five-pointed stars, white in 11
a blue triangular field that represents the state's hills and 12
valleys, the base of which shall be the staff end or vertical edge 13
of the flag, and the apex of which shall be the center of the 14
middle red stripe. The stars shall be grouped around a red disc 15
superimposed upon a white circular "O." The thirteen stars grouped 16
around the "O" represent the original states of the United States 17

and the four stars added to the peak of the triangle symbolize 18
that Ohio was the seventeenth state admitted to the union. The "O" 19
represents the "O" in "Ohio" and suggests the state's nickname, 20
the buckeye state. The proportional dimensions of the flag and of 21
its various parts shall be according to the official design on 22
file in the office of the secretary of state. One state flag of 23
uniform dimensions shall be furnished to each company of the 24
organized militia. 25

Sec. 5.012. (A) Display of the state flag at all state 26
buildings and public institutions, such as public school buildings 27
and state parks, is encouraged. If the state flag is displayed, it 28
may be flown every day when weather permits and shall be flown 29
from sunrise until sunset on all national and state holidays and 30
on any other days that the governor proclaims. The state flag may 31
be flown at night when properly lighted. When the state flag is 32
displayed outdoors, it shall be flown either from a flagpole or a 33
staff. Any staff from which the state flag is flown shall be at 34
least two and one-half times as long as the state flag. 35

(B) When the state flag and the United States flag are 36
displayed at the same time, the state flag shall not be larger 37
than the United States flag. When the state flag and the United 38
States flag are displayed together against a wall from crossed 39
staffs, the state flag shall be on the left of the United States 40
flag, and the staff supporting the state flag shall be behind the 41
staff supporting the United States flag. When the state flag is 42
flown from the same halyard as the United States flag, the state 43
flag shall be displayed beneath the United States flag. When the 44
state flag is carried in a procession in which the United States 45
flag is unfurled, the state flag shall be displayed on the 46
marching left of the United States flag. 47

(C) The state flag shall be washed or dry cleaned when soiled 48

and may be repaired. When the state flag is damaged beyond repair,
it shall be destroyed privately either by cutting it into small
pieces and burning it until only ashes remain or by sealing it in
a plastic bag or box before discarding it in a trash collection.

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Sec. 5.013. "I salute the flag of the state of Ohio and
pledge to the buckeye state respect and loyalty" is hereby adopted
as the official pledge to the state flag. The pledge shall not
replace, preempt, or be recited before the pledge of allegiance to
the United States flag.

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Section 2. That existing section 5.01 of the Revised Code is
hereby repealed.

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