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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

A N A C T

**RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE -- DAYS OF
SPECIAL OBSERVANCE**

Introduced By: Senators Gu, F. Lombardi, Felag, Lauria, Lawson, and Burke

Date Introduced: March 01, 2024

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 25-2 of the General Laws entitled "Days of Special Observance" is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **25-2-60. Lowering of flags to half-mast on state buildings to honor first responders.**

4 (a) The governor shall order the lowering of flags to half-mast upon the flagstaff of any
5 state buildings within this state annually on October 28 to honor the passing of first responders who
6 have served the state, including both on-duty and retired members of the police and fire
7 departments, emergency medical technicians, national guard and other military units, and all others,
8 in memory of those first responders who have become deceased.

9 (b) As used in this section, the term "flags" includes both the Rhode Island state flag as
10 defined in § 42-4-3 and the flag of the United States of America as defined in § 11-15-1.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE -- DAYS OF
SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

- 1 This act would direct the governor to order the lowering of flags to half-mast on any state
- 2 buildings to honor the passing of first responders annually on October 28.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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