

2018 -- H 7748

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LC003762
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- FLAGS AND EMBLEMS

Introduced By: Representative Deborah A. Fellela

Date Introduced: February 28, 2018

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 11-15 of the General Laws entitled "Flags and Emblems" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **11-15-8. Flag desecration.**

4 (a) As used in this section, the term "flag of the United States" means any flag of the
5 United States, or any part thereof, made of any substance, of any size, in a form that is commonly
6 displayed.

7 (b) Whoever knowingly mutilates, defaces, physically defiles, burns, maintains on the
8 floor or ground, or tramples upon the flag of the United States shall be fined five hundred dollars
9 (\$500).

10 (c) Nothing contained within this section prohibits any conduct consisting of the disposal
11 of a flag when it has become worn or soiled.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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- 1 This act would impose a fine of five hundred dollars for desecrating the American flag.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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