

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R5362 MXM-F

S.B. 483
By: Duncan
State Affairs
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As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, Section 3(ff), Texas Flag Code (Article 6139c, V.T.C.S.), sets forth provisions for the dignified burning of a Texas state flag upon its retirement. However, there is no standard ceremony used prior to burning the flag. S.B. 483 significantly expands and clarifies the official guidelines for a flag retirement ceremony.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 483 expands and clarifies procedures regarding the approved retirement ceremony for a Texas flag.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Article 6139c, Revised Statutes, Texas Flag Code, by adding Section 6, as follows:

Sec. 6. (a) Provides that a state flag be destroyed by burning in a dignified way when its use as an emblem for display, has ended.

(b) Provides that a flag retirement ceremony be conducted with honor and respect, befitting the traditions of Texas. Encourages a flag retirement to be a public ceremony and proceed under the direction of certain persons of patriotic inclinations.

(c) Sets forth responsibilities of both uniformed and nonuniformed individuals during a flag retirement ceremony.

(d) Provides that the colors of a Texas flag may be separated immediately before a retirement ceremony for individual dedication.

(e) Sets forth language for the official retirement ceremony encouraged for public use.

SECTION 2. Amends Sections 3(ff) and (gg), Article 6139c, Revised Statutes, Texas Flag Code, by deleting Subsection (ff) regarding the dignified destruction of the state flag. Redesignates Subsection (gg) as (ff).

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.