THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL No. 357 Session of 1995

INTRODUCED BY GAMBLE, E. Z. TAYLOR, TRELLO, GEIST, BELARDI, CLYMER, MICHLOVIC, MERRY, BELFANTI, FAIRCHILD, OLASZ, LYNCH, TIGUE, BROWNE, BATTISTO, COY, JAROLIN, McCALL, PRESTON, STABACK, CORRIGAN, BISHOP, LAUGHLIN, PESCI, ROBINSON, KELLER AND YOUNGBLOOD, JANUARY 26, 1995

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, JANUARY 26, 1995

AN ACT

Amending the act of August 9, 1955 (P.L.323, No.130), entitled 1 2 "An act relating to counties of the third, fourth, fifth, 3 sixth, seventh and eighth classes; amending, revising, 4 consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," 5 providing for flags on the graves of recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor. 6 7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows: 8

9 Section 1. Section 1922 of the act of August 9, 1955

10 (P.L.323, No.130), known as The County Code, amended June 12,

11 1986 (P.L.253, No.66), is amended to read:

Section 1922. Flags to Decorate Graves.--(a) It shall be the duty of the county commissioners to provide flags on each Memorial Day with which to decorate the graves of all deceased service persons buried within the county. The flags to be used for such purposes shall be of one standard size, colorfast and American made, and shall be purchased at the expense of the county from moneys in the county treasury. (b) Such flags shall be furnished to the various veterans'
 organizations in such numbers as they shall require for their
 respective communities.

4 (c) The moneys expended by any county under the provisions
5 of this section shall be in addition to moneys appropriated by
6 counties for Memorial Day purposes.

The authorities in charge of any cemetery are authorized 7 (d) 8 to remove such flags when the same become unsightly or weatherworn at any time not before the first working day after 9 10 Independence Day of each year with the exception of those flags 11 displayed on the graves of recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor. Flags displayed on the graves of recipients of the 12 13 Congressional Medal of Honor shall be replaced by the 14 authorities in charge of the cemetery when they become unsightly 15 or weatherworn to insure year-round display of flags on these 16 graves.

17 (e) Any authority or person in charge of any cemetery who 18 shall remove or cause the removal of the flags prior to the 19 first working day after Independence Day or removes or causes 20 the removal of a flag from the grave of a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor (except to replace a weatherworn, 21 22 unsightly or damaged flag), shall be guilty of a summary offense 23 and, upon conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to pay a fine in the amount of three hundred dollars (\$300) and, upon failure 24 25 to pay such fine, to undergo imprisonment not to exceed ninety 26 days.

27 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.