



# Howard County

## Internal Memorandum

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**Subject:** Testimony & Fiscal Impact Statement  
Council Resolution 118-2013

**To:** Lonnie R. Robbins  
Chief Administrative Officer

**From:** Jennifer Sager  
Legislative Coordinator

**Date:** September 12, 2013

Council Resolution No. 118-2013 requires the POW/MIA flag to be flown at 3430 Courthouse Drive, 8930 Stanford Boulevard and 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive. Consistent with the Resolution adopted by the U.S. Government, the flag will be flown on the following 6 days of the year: Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day and Veteran's Day.

The POW/MIA flag was first created during the Vietnam War. It was developed to remind every American of our nation's military service members whose fates were never accounted for from the Vietnam War. By the end of the Vietnam War, more than 2,500 service members were listed by the Department of Defense as being Prisoners of War ("POW") or Missing in Action ("MIA"). In 1979, Congress and the President proclaimed the first National POW/MIA Recognition Day as a symbol of the American people's resolve to never forget the men and women who gave their freedom while protecting the freedoms of others.

The POW/MIA flag is the only flag, other than the Stars and Stripes, to have flown over the White House in Washington, D.C., and is the only flag ever displayed in the U.S. Capitol's Rotunda. In a demonstration of bipartisan support, the leadership of both Houses of Congress hosted the installation ceremony.

The POW/MIA flag has become a symbol of the nation's commitment to finding and accounting for all U.S. personnel still missing. The importance of the flag lies in its continued visibility, a constant reminder of the plight of America's POW/MIAs.

The fiscal impact is nominal (the cost of the flags).