

By Representative Levine

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to display of the United States
3 flag; amending s. 256.11, F.S.; prohibiting the
4 willful removal of a United States flag from a
5 publicly supported and controlled auditorium;
6 providing exceptions; providing a penalty;
7 providing an effective date.

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9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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11 Section 1. Subsection (3) is added to section 256.11,
12 Florida Statutes, to read:

13 256.11 Public auditoriums; display of the United
14 States flag.--

15 (1) Each publicly supported and controlled auditorium
16 within a separate building shall display daily the flag of the
17 United States upon a suitable flagstaff upon the grounds of
18 the auditorium except when the weather does not permit such
19 display, and each publicly supported and controlled auditorium
20 within a part of a building shall display daily the flag of
21 the United States inside of the auditorium whenever the
22 auditorium is open.

23 (2) It is the duty of the person responsible for the
24 administration of such auditorium to provide a suitable flag
25 and cause it to be displayed in the manner provided in
26 subsection (1). If any such person willfully fails to cause
27 the flag to be so displayed, such person is guilty of a
28 noncriminal violation, punishable as provided in s. 775.083.

29 (3) It is unlawful for any person to willfully remove
30 or cause the removal of any flag displayed pursuant to
31 subsection (1), except for the cleaning, repair, or

1 replacement of such flag. A person who violates the provisions
2 of this subsection commits a misdemeanor of the second degree,
3 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

4 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
5 law.

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8 HOUSE SUMMARY

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10 Prohibits the willful removal of a United States flag
11 displayed as provided by law from a publicly supported
12 and controlled auditorium. Provides exceptions. Provides
13 a second degree misdemeanor penalty for violation.

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