

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to official state designations;
 3 creating s. 15.0465, F.S.; designating the
 4 official state flagship; providing an effective
 5 date.

6
 7 WHEREAS, the SS American Victory, which was built in
 8 1945 as part of the merchant fleet, played a major role in
 9 World War II in transporting troops, ammunition, and supplies
 10 for the Allied Forces, and

11 WHEREAS, the SS American Victory continued her service
 12 in rebuilding the postwar economy by transporting goods in
 13 support of the Marshall Plan, and

14 WHEREAS, the SS American Victory continued her service
 15 by supplying the forces of the United States and those of its
 16 allies during the Korean and Vietnam Wars, and

17 WHEREAS, the SS American Victory now serves as a museum
 18 and memorial to the merchant marines, and

19 WHEREAS, the SS American Victory is fully operational
 20 and capable of visiting ports of call, NOW, THEREFORE,

21
 22 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

23
 24 Section 1. Section 15.0465, Florida Statutes, is
 25 created to read:

26 15.0465 Official state flagship.--The victory ship SS
 27 American Victory, a victory class ship built in 1945 and
 28 active in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War,
 29 which now serves as the American Victory Mariner's Memorial
 30 and Museum Ship located in Hillsborough County, is designated
 31 as the official state flagship.

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