

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to the adoption and display of flags  
3       by governmental entities; creating s. 256.18, F.S.;  
4       defining the term "governmental entity"; prohibiting a  
5       governmental entity from displaying, placing, or  
6       causing to be placed certain flags on real property;  
7       providing a penalty; specifying flags a governmental  
8       entity may display on such property; providing  
9       requirements for a governmental entity that displays  
10      the flag of the United States; creating s. 256.19,  
11      F.S.; defining the term "local government";  
12      prohibiting a local government from adopting certain  
13      ordinances or regulations relating to the flag of the  
14      local government; providing that certain ordinances  
15      and regulations are void; providing an effective date.

16  
17   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
18

19           **Section 1.   Section 256.18, Florida Statutes, is created to**  
20 **read:**

21       256.18   Governmental entities; display of flags.—  
22       (1)   As used in this section, the term "governmental  
23 entity" means a state, county, municipality, special district,  
24 or other political subdivision, whether executive, judicial, or  
25 legislative, including, but not limited to, a department,

division, board, bureau, commission, authority, or district, or  
an agency thereof, or a public school, Florida College System  
institution, state university, or associated board.

(2) (a) A governmental entity may not:

1. Display any flag on real property other than a flag  
listed in subsection (3).

2. Place or cause to be placed a flag authorized to be  
displayed under subsection (3) which contains or depicts any  
word, figure, mark, picture, design, drawing, symbol, or  
advertisement of any nature which represents political  
partisanship, political ideology, race, gender, or sexual  
orientation.

(b) A governmental entity that violates this subsection is  
liable for a civil fine in the amount of \$500 per day. Proceeds  
from fines collected by the Department of State shall be  
deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

(3) A governmental entity may display on real property:

(a) The flag of the United States.

(b) The state flag.

(c) The flag of another state or another country.

(d) The flag of a city, county, municipality, or other  
political subdivision of this state.

(e) The flag of a branch of the United States Armed  
Forces.

(f) A POW-MIA flag pursuant to this chapter.

51        (g) The flag of an Indian tribe recognized by the United  
52 States.

53        (h) The official flag of a public school, Florida College  
54 System institution, or state university.

55        (i) A flag of historical significance to the government of  
56 the United States or this state.

57        (j) The official flag of the United States Paralympic  
58 Committee, the International Olympic Committee, or the  
59 International Paralympic Committee.

60        (k) The Olympic flag or Paralympic flag representing games  
61 that have occurred or will occur in this state.

62        (l) The flag of any sporting organization that is hosting,  
63 has hosted, or will host a sporting event in this state.

64        (4) A governmental entity that displays the United States  
65 flag must display the flag in a prominent position that is  
66 superior to any other flag on display.

67        **Section 2. Section 256.19, Florida Statutes, is created to**  
68 **read:**

69        256.19 Local government flags; prohibited acts.—

70        (1) As used in this section, the term "local government"  
71 means a city, county, municipality, or other political  
72 subdivision of this state.

73        (2) A local government may not adopt an ordinance or  
74 regulation that authorizes the flag of the local government to  
75 contain or depict any word, figure, mark, picture, design,

76 drawing, symbol, or advertisement of any nature which represents  
77 political partisanship, political ideology, race, gender, or  
78 sexual orientation.

79 (3) Any existing or future ordinance or regulation adopted  
80 by a local government which is in conflict with subsection (2)  
81 is void.

82 **Section 3.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.